

**A. Proficiencies**

Students will have demonstrated proficiencies determined by the Board of Education to be necessary for entry into the work place and to post-secondary education.

**Demonstrate proficiency in reading by:**

- Scoring proficient or advanced in Reading as measured by the 10<sup>th</sup> grade *criterion referenced*, Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP) test; or
- Scoring a 235 or higher on the Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP); or
- Meeting or exceeding the Colorado state average on the Reading ACT standardized test; or
- Scoring 80 or higher on the Reading Comprehension Accuplacer College Entrance Exam; or
- Scoring proficient or advanced on the District’s Common Summative Proficiency Assessment in Reading.

**Demonstrate proficiency in writing by:**

- Scoring proficient or advanced in Writing as measured by the 10<sup>th</sup> grade *criterion referenced*, Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP) test; or
- Attaining a score of 18 or higher (proficient – advanced) as measured by the high school writing rubric.
- Scoring 95 or higher on the Sentence Skills and 9 or higher on the Written Essay Accuplacer College Entrance Exam; or
- Score proficient or advanced on the District’s Common Summative Proficiency Assessment in Writing.

**Demonstrate proficiency in mathematics by:**

- Scoring proficient or advanced in Math as measured by the 10<sup>th</sup> grade *criterion referenced*, Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP) test; or
- Scoring a 245 or higher on the Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP) test; or
- Meeting or exceeding the Colorado state average in Math on the ACT standardized test; or
- Scoring 85 or higher on the Algebra Accuplacer College Entrance Exam; or
- Score Proficient or Advanced on the District’s Common Summative Proficiency Assessment in Math.

**Demonstrate proficiency in research skills by:**

- Successfully completing basic research on a topic or issue by using library reference materials and by completing a research paper that includes a thorough summary of available information and a logical conclusion based upon the findings.

**Demonstrate proficiency in using the scientific method by:**

- Successfully completing an original investigation in which steps of the scientific method can be documented.

**Demonstrate computer skills by:**

- Using application programs to create documents (e.g. writing assignments, research paper, resume, written communications, databases, spreadsheets, graphics.)

**Demonstrate First Aid and CPR skills proficiency by:**

- Successfully completing a Red Cross or comparable training program.

**B. External Learning Experiences**

An External Learning Experience is a prescribed educational experience, arranged and approved by appropriate staff, that is conducted external to the regular school curriculum and adequately evaluated and documented by the student. Each student must complete a minimum of 60 clock hours of External Learning Experiences, over three, six week grading sessions in activities approved by the Principal and the Family Unit Leader.

**Graduation Requirements – Colorado’s Finest Alternative High School**

## Service Learning

To graduate a student shall have completed 20 clock hours of service learning with a charity, health care facility, hospital, public agency, religious organization or school. The requirement shall be completed when the administrator of the agency verifies successful completion in writing.

D. Career Plan/Portfolio

Students must complete a Career Plan which includes a financial plan for further post-secondary training and/or education. Students must also complete a portfolio which includes, but is not limited to, a personal resume, current transcript, a sample letter of application and a minimum of three letters of recommendation.

E. Voter Registration

Students must obtain a voter registration card. A student who is not 18 years of age, must submit a statement in writing that he/she intends to obtain a card and knows where to do so.

F. Credit Hour Requirements

	<u>Carnegie Units</u>	<u>Credit Hours</u>
Total Required for Graduation	23.00	230.00
English Studies:		
• Speech	.25	2.50
• Composition/American Literature	.50	5.00
• Composition/World Literature	.50	5.00
• Composition	1.00	10.00
• English Electives	1.75	17.50
Social Studies:		
• U. S. History	1.00	10.00
• World History	.50	5.00
• Economics	.25	2.50
• Government	.25	2.50
• Geography	.50	5.00
• Psychology or Sociology	.25	2.50
• Social Studies Electives	.75	7.50
Science:		
• Biology and Lab Science	1.50	15.00
• Chemistry	0.50	5.00
• Physics	0.50	5.00
• Non-Lab Science	0.50	5.00
Mathematics		
1. Algebra	1.00	10.00
2. Geometry	1.00	10.00
3. Math Electives	1.00	10.00
Health Education	.50	5.00
Fine Arts and/or Physical Education	1.50	15.00
Electives	7.50	75.00

(elective credit is awarded for documented time completing the proficiencies, service, experiences and plan listed above (A, B, C, D).

Alternative: The Principal may approve an outcome based program for individual students. These students attain outcomes aligned with Colorado's Content Standards in lieu of completing credit requirements for course work. All of the other graduation requirements must be completed (A, B, C, D, E and G).

**G. Completion of Requirements**

The program of studies at Colorado's Finest Alternative High School is designed to provide maximum opportunity for most students to meet graduation requirements during four years of study. Students requiring more than four years may continue to work toward graduation until they attain the age of 21. At that time, they will be provided information to assist them in working toward a G. E. D. Certificate and other educational opportunities.

**H. Modification and/or Waiver of Requirements**

Students may have a specific requirement modified or waived by the Principal to prohibit a discriminatory practice, to remedy an unjust or unreasonable expectation, or to support a change which may result in a higher standard consistent with the student's educational goals. When possible, requirements should be modified rather than being waived. It is the intention of the Board of Education that waivers be made on a very limited basis.

Students who have reached the age of 21 and who have been denied their request for a waiver, may request a waiver of requirements through a Graduation Requirements Appeals Committee. The Committee shall be appointed by the Superintendent but shall minimally include one parent, one teacher, the Principal and the Executive Director of Instruction. The Committee shall recommend to the Superintendent that the waiver be granted or denied. If the Superintendent denies the waiver based upon the recommendation of the committee, the student may request a hearing with the Board of Education. The Board will make a final determination within ten days following the date of the hearing.

ADOPTED: February 21, 1995

REVISED: July 22, 2008

CROSS REFS: IKFC, Diplomas