

# Alternate Pathways and Graduation Options for Students



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# Regents Diploma Current Options and Requirements



- 22 high school credits in specific subject & electives, *AND*
- Score of 65 or better on required Regents Exams
  - a. Regents Diploma (regular & honors) – 5 exams
  - b. Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation – 8 exams (regular or honors).

**All students should be working toward a Regents Diploma.**



# Regents Diploma: Future Possibilities



- 3 Pathways to a Regents Diploma for all students:
  - ❖ Traditional – Possibly change Global to 2-classes / 2-exams
  - ❖ CTE (Career-Based) assessment in place of Global
  - ❖ STEM – 2<sup>nd</sup> Science or Math in place of Global
- **Nothing final – SED & Board of Regents actively looking at these and other options**



# Local Diploma Options



- Available to students with disabilities only; sometimes referred to as “Safety Net”
  1. Low Pass option: Score 55-64 on required Regents exams
  2. RCT Option\* - Score below 55, but pass Regents Competency Tests (RCT) in all required subject areas
  3. Compensatory Option



\*Only available to students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade prior to 2011-2012!

# Compensatory Option for Local Diploma



- Effective October 31, 2012
- Local Diploma also available if score of 45-54 on Regents in Global, US History or Science as long as:
  - ❖ the student passes the class in the subject area in which the 45-54 was received, AND
  - ❖ scores at least a 65 on another Regents exam, AND
  - ❖ meets the district's attendance requirement

\*\* Student must score at least 55 on English & Math



**NOTE: Does not apply if using an RCT credit**

# Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential



- New for 2013-2014 School Year
- Replaces IEP Diploma **ONLY** for students eligible for NYS Alternate Assessment
  - ❖ NYSSA is now aligned to Common Core
  - ❖ More rigorous assessment
  - ❖ Time consuming
- Accompanied by a **NEW** and more comprehensive student Exit Summary



# Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential (CDOSCC)



- Only for students with disabilities who are not eligible for NYSAA
- Supplement to a High School Diploma
- Can serve as an exiting credential for a non-graduate



# Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential (CDOSCC)



## To Earn the Credential:

- The student must be provided with an opportunity to earn a regular HS diploma and have access to general education.
- The student must demonstrate knowledge and skills relating to the CDOS learning standards.
  - The student must successfully complete in grade 9-12 not less than the equivalent of two units of study in career and technical education course(s) and/or work-based learning experiences.
  - The equivalent units of study shall be earned through:
    - a. Coursework in career and technical education, and/or
    - b. Work-based learning experiences, *provided that the equivalent units of study shall include a minimum of 54 hours* of documented school supervised work-based learning experiences related to career awareness, exploration and/or preparation.





# What is Work-Based Learning?



- Registered State-Approved Programs (see NYS Work-Based Learning manual)
- Community-based work programs
- Job shadowing
- Community service
- Volunteering
- Service learning
- Senior project(s) and/or school based enterprise(s)



These shall be provided, consistent with Department guidelines, under the supervision of the district and documented in the student's transcript.

# Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential (CDOSCC)



## To Earn the Credential:

- An **employability profile** must be completed documenting the student's attainment of the CDOS learning standards.
- A **Career Plan** must be developed documenting career interests, strengths and experiences. It is reviewed and revised annually.
- The student must complete 216 hours of CTE coursework and/or work-based learning experiences (of which 54 hours must be in work-based learning experiences).

# Steps for Implementation



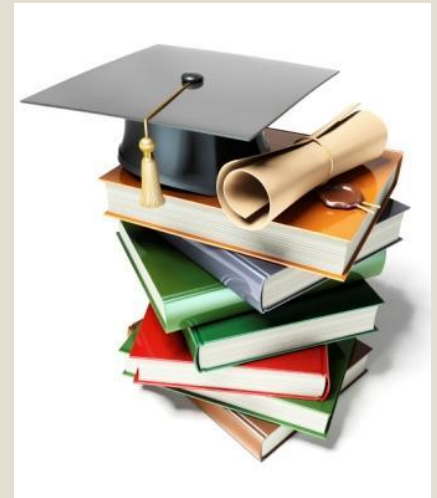
- **POB's Vocational Program** exceeds the minimum requirement for Work-Based Learning for Students earning the Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential.
- Comprehensive exit summaries for students eligible for NYSAA will be completed by a team including the student's guidance counselor, special education teacher and vocational/transition teacher.
- Information regarding changes in diploma options will be presented to SEPTA and to parents at the **Grade 8 to 9 Transition Meeting for Special Education Students**.
- Information regarding changes will be discussed with students at **Grade 8 and Grade 9 individual guidance conferences**.



# Challenges and Questions



- How will students who opt to obtain the CDOS Credential complete high school in four years?
- Only special education students are eligible for the CDOS Credential. Does the CDOS Credential unfairly identify them as special education students?
- Will work and community service outside of the school day meet the criteria for the CDOS Credential?
- Will teachers be required to obtain CTE Certification?
- What are the fiscal implications for school districts?



# High School DIPLOMA

NYS Options:

**Regents - 65 Pass on 5 Regents Exams**

(ELA, Math, Sci., US History, Global History)

**Local - via Safety Net for SWD**

1. 55-64 pass option,
  2. RCTs for cohorts prior to September 2011
  3. Compensatory Option – effective 10/31/12 via emergency action
- Student may score 45-54 on one or more of the required exams (excluding ELA and Math) if they compensate with scores higher than 65 on other exams & meet district attendance & course requirements (get course credit)
  - English and math scores must be  $\geq 55$
  - *Cannot be used in combination with RCT option*

## High School Equivalency

GED Test

To change in Jan. 2014

**Test Assessing Secondary Completion**

- McGraw Hill to provide Test Assessing Secondary Completion, or TASC
- Notify “near passer” students of need to complete current GED exam by 2014



## Student Exit

College and Career Ready

Updated June 2013

# CREDENTIALS

(NOT High School Diplomas)

## Skills and Achievement

### Commencement Credential

- Begin 2013-2014 school year
- NYSAA eligible & assessed
- Attended 12 years excluding K, or end of year attains 21
- CDOS learning standards
- Accompanied by new model of Student Exit Summary

## Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential (CDOSCC)

*Only for Students with Disabilities to*

1. supplement diploma, or
2. serve as exiting credential for students unable to earn a HS diploma

- Must provide opportunities to earn regular HS diploma and access to general education
- Develop and annually review career plan
- Career-related coursework and WBL experiences  
At least 2 units of credit (216 hours; **must include minimum 54 hours of WBL**)
- Employability profile documenting attainment of commencement level knowledge and skills or the CDOS standards

**Effective 4/23/13 via Emergency Action**

## PROPOSALS IN DISCUSSION

### Multiple Diploma Pathways

- All Students; 3 Pathways:
  - Traditional - possibly split Global into 2 courses/exams
  - CTE – rigorous CTE assessment in place of Global
  - STEM – 2<sup>nd</sup> math or science exam in place of Global
- Review structure of middle school programs
  - Should CTE start in middle school?
  - More accelerated courses to earn HS credit in MS?