

HOUSE BILL No. 5943

April 8, 2008, Introduced by Reps. Sheltroun, Calley, Griffin, Stahl, Bauer, Elsenheimer, Spade, Rick Jones and Hune and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled
 "The revised school code,"
 by amending sections 78a, 1278b, and 1280 (MCL 380.1278a,
 380.1278b, and 380.1280), section 78a as added by 2006 PA 124,
 section 1278b as amended by 2007 PA 141, and section 1280 as
 amended by 2006 PA 123, and by adding section 1278c.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1278a. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section,
 2 ~~or~~ section 1278b, **OR SECTION 1278C**, beginning with pupils entering
 3 grade 8 in 2006, the board of a school district or board of
 4 directors of a public school academy shall not award a high school
 5 diploma to a pupil unless the pupil meets all of the following:

1 (a) Has successfully completed all of the following credit
2 requirements of the Michigan merit standard before graduating from
3 high school:

4 (i) At least 4 credits in mathematics that are aligned with
5 subject area content expectations developed by the department and
6 approved by the state board under section 1278b, including
7 completion of at least algebra I, geometry, and algebra II, or an
8 integrated sequence of this course content that consists of 3
9 credits, and an additional mathematics credit, such as
10 trigonometry, statistics, precalculus, calculus, applied math,
11 accounting, business math, or a retake of algebra II. Each pupil
12 must successfully complete at least 1 mathematics course during his
13 or her final year of high school enrollment.

14 (ii) At least 3 credits in social science that are aligned with
15 subject area content expectations developed by the department and
16 approved by the state board under section 1278b, including
17 completion of at least 1 credit in United States history and
18 geography, 1 credit in world history and geography, 1/2 credit in
19 economics, and the civics course described in section 1166(2).

20 (iii) At least 1 credit in subject matter that includes both
21 health and physical education aligned with guidelines developed by
22 the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b.

23 (iv) At least 1 credit in visual arts, performing arts, or
24 applied arts, as defined by the department, that is aligned with
25 guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state
26 board under section 1278b.

27 (v) The credit requirements specified in section 1278b(1).

1 (b) Meets the online course or learning experience requirement
2 of this subsection. A school district or public school academy
3 shall provide the basic level of technology and internet access
4 required by the state board to complete the online course or
5 learning experience. For a pupil to meet this requirement, the
6 pupil shall meet either of the following, as determined by the
7 school district or public school academy:

8 (i) Has successfully completed at least 1 course or learning
9 experience that is presented online, as defined by the department.

10 (ii) The pupil's school district or public school academy has
11 integrated an online experience throughout the high school
12 curriculum by ensuring that each teacher of each course that
13 provides the required credits of the Michigan merit curriculum has
14 integrated an online experience into the course.

15 (2) In addition to the requirements under subsection (1),
16 beginning with pupils entering grade 3 in 2006, the board of a
17 school district or board of directors of a public school academy
18 shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil
19 has successfully completed during grades 9 to 12 at least 2
20 credits, as determined by the department, in a language other than
21 English, or the pupil has successfully completed at any time during
22 grades K to 12 course work or other learning experiences that are
23 substantially equivalent to 2 credits in a language other than
24 English, based on guidelines developed by the department. For the
25 purposes of this subsection, all of the following apply:

26 (a) American sign language is considered to be a language
27 other than English.

1 (b) The pupil may meet all or part of this requirement with
2 online course work.

3 (3) The requirements under this section and section 1278b for
4 a high school diploma are in addition to any local requirements
5 imposed by the board of a school district or board of directors of
6 a public school academy. The board of a school district or board of
7 directors of a public school academy, as a local requirement for a
8 high school diploma, may require a pupil to complete some or all of
9 the subject area assessments under section 1279 or the Michigan
10 merit examination under section 1279g, as applicable to the pupil
11 under section 1279g, or may require a pupil to participate in the
12 MIAccess assessments if appropriate for the pupil.

13 (4) For the purposes of this section, ~~and~~ section 1278b, **AND**
14 **SECTION 1278C**, all of the following apply:

15 (a) A pupil is considered to have completed a credit if the
16 pupil successfully completes the subject area content expectations
17 or guidelines developed by the department that apply to the credit.

18 (b) A school district or public school academy shall base its
19 determination of whether a pupil has successfully completed the
20 subject area content expectations or guidelines developed by the
21 department that apply to a credit at least in part on the pupil's
22 performance on the assessments developed or selected by the
23 department under section 1278b or on 1 or more assessments
24 developed or selected by the school district or public school
25 academy that measure a pupil's understanding of the subject area
26 content expectations or guidelines that apply to the credit.

27 (c) A school district or public school academy shall also

1 grant a pupil a credit if the pupil earns a qualifying score, as
2 determined by the department, on the assessments developed or
3 selected for the subject area by the department under section 1278b
4 or the pupil earns a qualifying score, as determined by the school
5 district or public school academy, on 1 or more assessments
6 developed or selected by the school district or public school
7 academy that measure a pupil's understanding of the subject area
8 content expectations or guidelines that apply to the credit.

9 (5) If a high school is designated by the superintendent of
10 public instruction as a specialty school and the high school meets
11 the requirements of subsection (6), then the pupils of the high
12 school are not required to successfully complete the 4 credits in
13 English language arts required under section 1278b(1)(a) or the 3
14 credits in social science required under subsection (1)(a)(ii) and
15 the school district or public school academy is not required to
16 ensure that each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for
17 meeting those English language arts or social science credit
18 requirements. The superintendent of public instruction may
19 designate up to 15 high schools that meet the requirements of this
20 subsection as specialty schools. Subject to this maximum number,
21 the superintendent of public instruction shall designate a high
22 school as a specialty school if the superintendent of public
23 instruction finds that the high school meets all of the following
24 criteria:

25 (a) The high school incorporates a significant reading and
26 writing component throughout its curriculum.

27 (b) The high school uses a specialized, innovative, and

1 rigorous curriculum in such areas as performing arts, foreign
2 language, extensive use of internships, or other learning
3 innovations that conform to pioneering innovations among other
4 leading national or international high schools.

5 (6) A high school that is designated by the superintendent of
6 public instruction as a specialty school under subsection (5) is
7 only exempt from requirements as described under subsection (5) as
8 long as the superintendent of public instruction finds that the
9 high school continues to meet all of the following requirements:

10 (a) The high school clearly states to prospective pupils and
11 their parents that it does not meet the requirements of the
12 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278b but is
13 a designated specialty school that is exempt from some of those
14 requirements and that a pupil who enrolls in the high school and
15 subsequently transfers to a high school that is not a specialty
16 school meeting the requirements of this subsection will be required
17 to comply with the requirements of the Michigan merit standard
18 under this section and section 1278b.

19 (b) For the most recent year for which the data are available,
20 the mean scores on both the mathematics and science portions of the
21 ACT examination for the pupils of the high school exceed by at
22 least 10% the mean scores on the mathematics and science portions
23 of the ACT examination for the pupils of the school district in
24 which the greatest number of the pupils of the high school reside.

25 (c) For the most recent year for which the data are available,
26 the high school had a graduation rate of at least 85%, as
27 determined by the department.

1 (d) For the most recent year for which the data are available,
2 at least 75% of the pupils who graduated from the high school the
3 preceding year are enrolled in a postsecondary institution.

4 (e) All pupils of the high school are required to meet the
5 mathematics credit requirements of subsection (1)(a)(i), with no
6 modification of these requirements under section 1278b(5), and each
7 pupil is offered the curriculum necessary to meet this requirement.

8 (f) All pupils of the high school are required to meet the
9 science credit requirements of section 1278b(1)(b) and are also
10 required to successfully complete at least 1 additional science
11 credit, for a total of at least 4 science credits, with no
12 modification of these requirements under section 1278b(5), and each
13 pupil is offered the curriculum necessary to meet this requirement.

14 Sec. 1278b. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section,
15 ~~or~~ section 1278a, **OR SECTION 1278C**, beginning with pupils entering
16 grade 8 in 2006, as part of the requirements under section 1278a
17 the board of a school district or board of directors of a public
18 school academy shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil
19 unless the pupil has successfully completed all of the following
20 credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard before
21 graduating from high school:

22 (a) At least 4 credits in English language arts that are
23 aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the
24 department and approved by the state board under this section.

25 (b) At least 3 credits in science that are aligned with
26 subject area content expectations developed by the department and
27 approved by the state board under this section, including

1 completion of at least biology and either chemistry or physics. The
2 legislature strongly encourages pupils to complete a fourth credit
3 in science, such as forensics, astronomy, Earth science,
4 agricultural science, environmental science, geology, physics or
5 chemistry, physiology, or microbiology.

6 (c) The credit requirements specified in section 1278a(1) (a) (i)
7 to (iv).

8 (2) If a pupil successfully completes 1 or more of the high
9 school credits required under subsection (1) or under section
10 1278a(1) before entering high school, the pupil shall be given high
11 school credit for that credit.

12 (3) For the purposes of this section, ~~and~~ section 1278a, **AND**
13 **SECTION 1278C**, the department shall do all of the following:

14 (a) Develop subject area content expectations that apply to
15 the credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are
16 required under subsection (1) (a) and (b) and section 1278a(1) (a) (i)
17 and (ii); ~~and~~ develop guidelines for the remaining credit
18 requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are required under
19 this section and section 1278a(1) (a), for the online course or
20 learning experience required under section 1278a(1) (b), and for the
21 requirements for a language other than English under section
22 1278a(2); **AND DEVELOP SUBJECT AREA CONTENT EXPECTATIONS OR**
23 **GUIDELINES, AS THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES APPROPRIATE, FOR ANY**
24 **REMAINING CREDIT REQUIREMENTS OF THE GENERAL DIPLOMA CURRICULUM**
25 **THAT ARE REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 1278C.** All of the following apply
26 to these subject area content expectations and guidelines:

27 (i) All subject area content expectations shall be consistent

1 with the state board recommended model core academic curriculum
2 content standards under section 1278. Subject area content
3 expectations or guidelines shall not include attitudes, beliefs, or
4 value systems that are not essential in the legal, economic, and
5 social structure of our society and to the personal and social
6 responsibility of citizens of our society. The subject area content
7 expectations shall require pupils to demonstrate critical thinking
8 skills.

9 (ii) The subject area content expectations and the guidelines
10 must be approved by the state board under subsection (4).

11 (iii) The subject area content expectations shall state in clear
12 and measurable terms what pupils are expected to know upon
13 completion of each credit.

14 (iv) The department shall complete the development of the
15 subject area content expectations that apply to algebra I and the
16 guidelines for the online course or learning experience under
17 section 1278a(1)(b) not later than August 1, 2006.

18 (v) The department shall complete development of the subject
19 area content expectations or guidelines that apply to each of the
20 other credits required in the Michigan merit standard under
21 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a), **OR THAT APPLY TO EACH OF**
22 **THE OTHER CREDITS REQUIRED IN THE GENERAL DIPLOMA CURRICULUM UNDER**
23 **SECTION 1278C**, not later than 1 year before the beginning of the
24 school year in which a pupil entering high school in 2007 would
25 normally be expected to complete the credit.

26 (vi) If the department has not completed development of the
27 subject area content expectations that apply to a particular credit

1 required in the Michigan merit standard under subsection (1) or
2 section 1278a(1) (a), **OR REQUIRED IN THE GENERAL DIPLOMA CURRICULUM**
3 **UNDER SECTION 1278C**, by the date required under this subdivision, a
4 school district or public school academy may align the content of
5 the credit with locally adopted standards.

6 (vii) Until all of the subject area content expectations and
7 guidelines have been developed by the department and approved by
8 the state board, the department shall submit a report at least
9 every 6 months to the senate and house standing committees
10 responsible for education legislation on the status of the
11 development of the subject area content expectations and
12 guidelines. The report shall detail any failure by the department
13 to meet a deadline established under subparagraph (iv) or (v) and
14 the reasons for that failure.

15 (b) Develop and implement a process for developing the subject
16 area content expectations and guidelines required under this
17 section. This process shall provide for all of the following:

18 (i) Soliciting input from all of the following groups:

19 (A) Recognized experts in the relevant subject areas.

20 (B) Representatives from 4-year colleges or universities,
21 community colleges, and other postsecondary institutions.

22 (C) Teachers, administrators, and school personnel who have
23 specialized knowledge of the subject area.

24 (D) Representatives from the business community.

25 (E) Representatives from vocational and career and technical
26 education providers.

27 (F) Government officials, including officials from the

1 legislature.

2 (G) Parents of public school pupils.

3 (ii) A review of the subject area content expectations or
4 guidelines by national experts.

5 (iii) An opportunity for the public to review and provide input
6 on the proposed subject area content expectations or guidelines
7 before they are submitted to the state board for approval. The time
8 period allowed for this review and input shall be at least 15
9 business days.

10 (c) Determine the basic level of technology and internet
11 access required for pupils to complete the online course or
12 learning experience requirement of section 1278a(1)(b), and submit
13 that determination to the state board for approval.

14 (d) Develop and make available material to assist school
15 districts and public school academies in implementing the
16 requirements of this section and section 1278a. This shall include
17 developing guidelines for alternative instructional delivery
18 methods as described in subsection (7).

19 (4) The state board shall approve subject area content
20 expectations and guidelines developed by the department under
21 subsection (3) before those subject area content expectations and
22 guidelines may take effect. The state board also shall approve the
23 basic level of technology and internet access required for pupils
24 to complete the online course or learning experience requirement of
25 section 1278a(1)(b).

26 (5) The parent or legal guardian of a pupil may request a
27 personal curriculum under this subsection for the pupil that

1 modifies certain of the Michigan merit standard requirements under
2 subsection (1) or section 1278a(1)(a). If all of the requirements
3 under this subsection for a personal curriculum are met, then the
4 board of a school district or board of directors of a public school
5 academy may award a high school diploma to a pupil who successfully
6 completes his or her personal curriculum even if it does not meet
7 the requirements of the Michigan merit standard required under
8 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a). All of the following apply
9 to a personal curriculum:

10 (a) The personal curriculum shall be developed by a group that
11 includes at least the pupil, at least 1 of the pupil's parents or
12 the pupil's legal guardian, and the pupil's high school counselor
13 or another designee qualified to act in a counseling role under
14 section 1233 or 1233a selected by the high school principal. In
15 addition, for a pupil who receives special education services, a
16 school psychologist should also be included in this group.

17 (b) The personal curriculum shall incorporate as much of the
18 subject area content expectations of the Michigan merit standard
19 required under subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a) as is
20 practicable for the pupil; shall establish measurable goals that
21 the pupil must achieve while enrolled in high school and shall
22 provide a method to evaluate whether the pupil achieved these
23 goals; and shall be aligned with the pupil's educational
24 development plan developed under subsection (11).

25 (c) Before it takes effect, the personal curriculum must be
26 agreed to by the pupil's parent or legal guardian and by the
27 superintendent of the school district or chief executive of the

1 public school academy or his or her designee.

2 (d) The pupil's parent or legal guardian shall be in
3 communication with each of the pupil's teachers at least once each
4 calendar quarter to monitor the pupil's progress toward the goals
5 contained in the pupil's personal curriculum.

6 (e) Revisions may be made in the personal curriculum if the
7 revisions are developed and agreed to in the same manner as the
8 original personal curriculum.

9 (f) The English language arts credit requirements of
10 subsection (1)(a) and the science credit requirements of subsection
11 (1)(b) are not subject to modification as part of a personal
12 curriculum under this subsection.

13 (g) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, the
14 mathematics credit requirements of section 1278a(1)(a)(i) may be
15 modified as part of a personal curriculum only after the pupil has
16 successfully completed at least 2-1/2 credits of the mathematics
17 credits required under that section and only if the pupil
18 successfully completes at least 3-1/2 total credits of the
19 mathematics credits required under that section before completing
20 high school. The requirement under that section that a pupil must
21 successfully complete at least 1 mathematics course during his or
22 her final year of high school enrollment is not subject to
23 modification as part of a personal curriculum under this
24 subsection. The algebra II credit required under that section may
25 be modified as part of a personal curriculum under this subsection
26 only if the pupil has successfully completed at least 2 credits of
27 the mathematics credits required under section 1278a(1)(a)(i) and

1 meets 1 or more of the following:

2 (i) Has successfully completed the same content as 1 semester
3 of algebra II, as determined by the department.

4 (ii) Elects to complete the same content as algebra II over 2
5 years, with a credit awarded for each of those 2 years, and
6 successfully completes that content.

7 (iii) Enrolls in a formal career and technical education program
8 or curriculum and in that program or curriculum successfully
9 completes the same content as 1 semester of algebra II, as
10 determined by the department.

11 (h) The social science credit requirements of section
12 1278a(1) (a) (ii) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum
13 only if all of the following are met:

14 (i) The pupil has successfully completed 2 credits of the
15 social science credits required under section 1278a(1), including
16 the civics course described in section 1166(2).

17 (ii) The modification requires the pupil to complete 1
18 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or science
19 or 1 additional credit in a language other than English. This
20 additional credit must be in addition to the number of those
21 credits otherwise required under subsection (1) and section
22 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

23 (i) The health and physical education credit requirement under
24 section 1278a(1) (a) (iii) may be modified as part of a personal
25 curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil to complete
26 1 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or
27 science or 1 additional credit in a language other than English.

1 This additional credit must be in addition to the number of those
2 credits otherwise required under subsection (1) and section
3 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

4 (j) The visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts credit
5 requirement under section 1278a(1)(a)(iv) may be modified as part of
6 a personal curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil
7 to complete 1 additional credit in English language arts,
8 mathematics, or science or 1 additional credit in a language other
9 than English. This additional credit must be in addition to the
10 number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1) and
11 section 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

12 (k) If the parent or legal guardian of a pupil requests as
13 part of the pupil's personal curriculum a modification of the
14 Michigan merit standard requirements that would not otherwise be
15 allowed under this section and demonstrates that the modification
16 is necessary because the pupil is a child with a disability, the
17 school district or public school academy may allow that additional
18 modification to the extent necessary because of the pupil's
19 disability if the group under subdivision (a) determines that the
20 modification is consistent with both the pupil's educational
21 development plan under subsection (11) and the pupil's
22 individualized education program. If the superintendent of public
23 instruction has reason to believe that a school district or a
24 public school academy is allowing modifications inconsistent with
25 the requirements of this subdivision, the superintendent of public
26 instruction shall monitor the school district or public school
27 academy to ensure that the school district's or public school

1 academy's policies, procedures, and practices are in compliance
2 with the requirements for additional modifications under this
3 subdivision. As used in this subdivision, "child with a disability"
4 means that term as defined in 20 USC 1401.

5 (l) If a pupil transfers to a school district or public school
6 academy from out of state or from a nonpublic school, the pupil's
7 parent or legal guardian may request, as part of the pupil's
8 personal curriculum, a modification of the Michigan merit standard
9 requirements that would not otherwise be allowed under this
10 section. The school district or public school academy may allow
11 this additional modification for a transfer pupil if all of the
12 following are met:

13 (i) The transfer pupil has successfully completed at least the
14 equivalent of 2 years of high school credit out of state or at a
15 nonpublic school. The school district or public school academy may
16 use appropriate assessment examinations to determine what credits,
17 if any, the pupil has earned out of state or at a nonpublic school
18 that may be used to satisfy the curricular requirements of the
19 Michigan merit standard and this subdivision.

20 (ii) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum incorporates as
21 much of the subject area content expectations of the Michigan merit
22 standard as is practicable for the pupil.

23 (iii) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum requires the
24 pupil to successfully complete at least 1 mathematics course during
25 his or her final year of high school enrollment. In addition, if
26 the transfer pupil is enrolled in the school district or public
27 school academy for at least 1 full school year, both of the

1 following apply:

2 (A) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum shall require
3 that this mathematics course is at least algebra I.

4 (B) If the transfer pupil demonstrates that he or she has
5 mastered the content of algebra I, the transfer pupil's personal
6 curriculum shall require that this mathematics course is a course
7 normally taken after completing algebra I.

8 (iv) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum includes the
9 civics course described in section 1166(2).

10 (m) If a pupil is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor,
11 the pupil may act on his or her own behalf under this subsection.

12 (n) This subsection does not apply to a pupil enrolled in a
13 high school that is designated as a specialty school under section
14 1278a(5) and that is exempt under that section from the English
15 language arts requirement under subsection (1)(a) and the social
16 science credit requirement under section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

17 (6) If a pupil receives special education services, the
18 pupil's individualized education program, in accordance with the
19 individuals with disabilities education act, title VI of Public Law
20 91-230, shall identify the appropriate course or courses of study
21 and identify the supports, accommodations, and modifications
22 necessary to allow the pupil to progress in the curricular
23 requirements of this section and section 1278a, or in a personal
24 curriculum as provided under subsection (5), and meet the
25 requirements for a high school diploma.

26 (7) The board of a school district or board of directors of a
27 public school academy that operates a high school shall ensure that

1 each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for the pupil to
2 meet the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a.
3 The board or board of directors may provide this curriculum by
4 providing the credits specified in this section and section 1278a,
5 by using alternative instructional delivery methods such as
6 alternative course work, humanities course sequences, career and
7 technical education, industrial technology courses, or vocational
8 education, or by a combination of these. School districts and
9 public school academies that operate career and technical education
10 programs are encouraged to integrate the credit requirements of
11 this section and section 1278a into those programs.

12 (8) If the board of a school district or board of directors of
13 a public school academy wants its high school to be accredited
14 under section 1280, the board or board of directors shall ensure
15 that all elements of the curriculum required under this section and
16 section 1278a are made available to all affected pupils. If a
17 school district or public school academy does not offer all of the
18 required credits, the board of the school district or board of
19 directors of the public school academy shall ensure that the pupil
20 has access to the required credits by another means, such as
21 enrollment in a postsecondary course under the postsecondary
22 enrollment options act, 1996 PA 160, MCL 388.511 to 388.524;
23 enrollment in an online course; a cooperative arrangement with a
24 neighboring school district or with a public school academy; or
25 granting approval under section 6(6) of the state school aid act of
26 1979, MCL 388.1606, for the pupil to be counted in membership in
27 another school district.

1 (9) If a pupil is not successfully completing a credit
2 required for graduation under this section and section 1278a **OR**
3 **REQUIRED FOR A GENERAL DIPLOMA UNDER SECTION 1278C**, or is
4 identified as being at risk of withdrawing from high school, then
5 the pupil's school district or public school academy shall notify
6 the pupil's parent or legal guardian or, if the pupil is at least
7 age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the pupil, of the availability
8 of tutoring or other supplemental educational support and
9 counseling services that may be available to the pupil under
10 existing state or federal programs, such as those programs or
11 services available under section 31a of the state school aid act of
12 1979, MCL 388.1631a, or under the no child left behind act of 2001,
13 Public Law 107-110.

14 (10) To the extent required by the no child left behind act of
15 2001, Public Law 107-110, the board of a school district or public
16 school academy shall ensure that all components of the curricular
17 requirements under this section and section 1278a **AND OF THE**
18 **GENERAL DIPLOMA CURRICULUM UNDER SECTION 1278C** are taught by highly
19 qualified teachers. If a school district or public school academy
20 demonstrates to the department that the school district or public
21 school academy is unable to meet the requirements of this section
22 because the school district or public school academy is unable to
23 hire enough highly qualified teachers, the department shall work
24 with the school district or public school academy to develop a plan
25 to allow the school district or public school academy to hire
26 enough highly qualified teachers to meet the requirements of this
27 section.

1 (11) The board of a school district or board of directors of a
2 public school academy shall ensure that each pupil in grade 7 is
3 provided with the opportunity to develop an educational development
4 plan, and that each pupil has developed an educational development
5 plan before he or she begins high school. An educational
6 development plan shall be developed by the pupil under the
7 supervision of the pupil's school counselor or another designee
8 qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233 or 1233a
9 selected by the high school principal and shall be based on a
10 career pathways program or similar career exploration program. In
11 addition, if the pupil receives special education services, a
12 school psychologist should also participate in developing the
13 pupil's educational development plan.

14 (12) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if a
15 school district or public school academy is unable to implement all
16 of the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a
17 for pupils entering grade 9 in 2007 or is unable to implement
18 another requirement of this section or section 1278a, the school
19 district or public school academy may apply to the department for
20 permission to phase in 1 or more of the requirements of this
21 section or section 1278a. To apply, the school district or public
22 school academy shall submit a proposed phase-in plan to the
23 department. The department shall approve a phase-in plan if the
24 department determines that the plan will result in the school
25 district or public school academy making satisfactory progress
26 toward full implementation of the requirements of this section and
27 section 1278a. If the department disapproves a proposed phase-in

1 plan, the department shall work with the school district or public
2 school academy to develop a satisfactory plan that may be approved.
3 However, if legislation is enacted that adds section 1290 to allow
4 school districts and public school academies to apply for a
5 contract that waives certain state or federal requirements, then
6 this subsection does not apply but a school district or public
7 school academy may take action as described in subsection (13).
8 This subsection does not apply to a high school that is designated
9 as a specialty school under section 1278a(5) and that is exempt
10 under that section from the English language arts requirement under
11 subsection (1)(a) and the social science credit requirement under
12 section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

13 (13) If a school district or public school academy does not
14 offer all of the required credits or provide options to have access
15 to the required credits as provided under subsection (8) and if
16 legislation is enacted that adds section 1290 to allow school
17 districts and public school academies to apply for a contract that
18 waives certain state or federal requirements, then the school
19 district or public school academy is encouraged to apply for a
20 contract under section 1290. The purpose of a contract described in
21 this subsection is to improve pupil performance.

22 (14) This section, ~~and~~ section 1278a, **AND SECTION 1278C** do not
23 prohibit a pupil from satisfying or exceeding the credit
24 requirements of the Michigan merit standard under this section and
25 section 1278a **OR THE GENERAL DIPLOMA CURRICULUM UNDER SECTION 1278C**
26 through advanced studies such as accelerated course placement,
27 advanced placement, dual enrollment in a postsecondary institution,

1 or participation in the international baccalaureate program or an
2 early college/middle college program.

3 (15) Not later than April 1 of each year, the department shall
4 submit an annual report to the legislature that evaluates the
5 overall success of the curriculum required under this section and
6 section 1278a **AND OF THE GENERAL DIPLOMA CURRICULUM REQUIRED UNDER**
7 **SECTION 1278C**, the rigor and relevance of the course work required
8 by ~~the curriculum~~ **THOSE CURRICULA**, the ability of public schools to
9 implement the ~~curriculum~~ **CURRICULA** and the required course work,
10 and the impact of the ~~curriculum~~ **CURRICULA** on pupil success, and
11 that details any activities the department has undertaken to
12 implement this section, ~~and~~ section 1278a, **AND SECTION 1278C** or to
13 assist public schools in implementing the requirements of this
14 section, ~~and~~ section 1278a, **AND SECTION 1278C**.

15 **SEC. 1278C. (1) BEGINNING WITH PUPILS ENTERING GRADE 8 IN**
16 **2006, THE BOARD OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A**
17 **PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SHALL NOT AWARD A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA TO A**
18 **PUPIL UNLESS THE PUPIL EITHER MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE**
19 **MICHIGAN MERIT STANDARD UNDER SECTIONS 1278A AND 1278B OR MEETS THE**
20 **REQUIREMENTS UNDER THIS SECTION FOR A GENERAL DIPLOMA. THE**
21 **REQUIREMENTS FOR A GENERAL DIPLOMA ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

22 (A) HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CREDIT
23 REQUIREMENTS BEFORE GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL:

24 (i) AT LEAST 3 CREDITS IN MATHEMATICS THAT ARE ALIGNED WITH
25 SUBJECT AREA CONTENT EXPECTATIONS DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND
26 APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD UNDER SECTION 1278B, INCLUDING
27 COMPLETION OF AT LEAST ALGEBRA I OR THE INTEGRATED EQUIVALENT IN A

1 CAREER AND TECHNICAL PREPARATION COURSE, GEOMETRY OR THE INTEGRATED
2 EQUIVALENT IN A CAREER AND TECHNICAL PREPARATION COURSE, AND AN
3 ADDITIONAL MATHEMATICS CREDIT.

4 (ii) AT LEAST 4 CREDITS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS THAT ARE
5 ALIGNED WITH SUBJECT AREA CONTENT EXPECTATIONS DEVELOPED BY THE
6 DEPARTMENT AND APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD UNDER SECTION 1278B.

7 (iii) AT LEAST 2 CREDITS IN SCIENCE THAT ARE ALIGNED WITH
8 SUBJECT AREA CONTENT EXPECTATIONS DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND
9 APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD UNDER SECTION 1278B, INCLUDING
10 COMPLETION OF AT LEAST BIOLOGY AND AN ADDITIONAL SCIENCE CREDIT.

11 (iv) AT LEAST 2 CREDITS IN SOCIAL SCIENCE THAT ARE ALIGNED WITH
12 SUBJECT AREA CONTENT EXPECTATIONS DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND
13 APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD UNDER SECTION 1278B, INCLUDING
14 COMPLETION OF AT LEAST THE CIVICS COURSE DESCRIBED IN SECTION
15 1166(2).

16 (v) AT LEAST 1 CREDIT IN SUBJECT MATTER THAT INCLUDES BOTH
17 HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION ALIGNED WITH GUIDELINES DEVELOPED BY
18 THE DEPARTMENT AND APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD UNDER SECTION 1278B.

19 (vi) AT LEAST 3 CREDITS IN A CAREER AND TECHNICAL PREPARATION
20 ACADEMIC SEQUENCE, ALIGNED WITH GUIDELINES DEVELOPED BY THE
21 DEPARTMENT AND APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD UNDER SECTION 1278B.

22 (vii) AT LEAST 1 ADDITIONAL CREDIT THAT IS ALIGNED WITH
23 GUIDELINES DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND APPROVED BY THE STATE
24 BOARD UNDER SECTION 1278B.

25 (B) MEETS THE ONLINE COURSE OR LEARNING EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT
26 OF SECTION 1278A(1)(B).

27 (2) IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (1),

1 BEGINNING WITH PUPILS ENTERING GRADE 3 IN 2006, THE BOARD OF A
2 SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY
3 SHALL NOT AWARD A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA TO A PUPIL UNLESS THE PUPIL
4 HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED DURING GRADES 9 TO 12 AT LEAST 2
5 CREDITS, AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT, IN A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN
6 ENGLISH, OR THE PUPIL HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED AT ANY TIME DURING
7 GRADES K TO 12 COURSE WORK OR OTHER LEARNING EXPERIENCES THAT ARE
8 SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT TO 2 CREDITS IN A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN
9 ENGLISH, BASED ON GUIDELINES DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT. FOR THE
10 PURPOSES OF THIS SUBSECTION, ALL OF THE FOLLOWING APPLY:

11 (A) AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE IS CONSIDERED TO BE A LANGUAGE
12 OTHER THAN ENGLISH.

13 (B) THE PUPIL MAY MEET ALL OR PART OF THIS REQUIREMENT WITH
14 ONLINE COURSE WORK.

15 (3) THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THIS SECTION FOR A GENERAL DIPLOMA
16 ARE IN ADDITION TO ANY LOCAL REQUIREMENTS IMPOSED BY THE BOARD OF A
17 SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY.
18 THE BOARD OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A PUBLIC
19 SCHOOL ACADEMY, AS A LOCAL REQUIREMENT FOR A GENERAL DIPLOMA UNDER
20 THIS SECTION, MAY REQUIRE A PUPIL TO COMPLETE SOME OR ALL OF THE
21 SUBJECT AREA ASSESSMENTS UNDER SECTION 1279 OR THE MICHIGAN MERIT
22 EXAMINATION UNDER SECTION 1279G, AS APPLICABLE TO THE PUPIL UNDER
23 SECTION 1279G, OR MAY REQUIRE A PUPIL TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
24 MIACCESS ASSESSMENTS IF APPROPRIATE FOR THE PUPIL.

25 (4) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, ALL OF THE FOLLOWING
26 APPLY:

27 (A) A PUPIL IS CONSIDERED TO HAVE COMPLETED A CREDIT IF THE

1 PUPIL SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES THE SUBJECT AREA CONTENT EXPECTATIONS
2 OR GUIDELINES DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT THAT APPLY TO THE CREDIT.

3 (B) A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SHALL BASE ITS
4 DETERMINATION OF WHETHER A PUPIL HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE
5 SUBJECT AREA CONTENT EXPECTATIONS OR GUIDELINES DEVELOPED BY THE
6 DEPARTMENT THAT APPLY TO A CREDIT AT LEAST IN PART ON THE PUPIL'S
7 PERFORMANCE ON THE ASSESSMENTS DEVELOPED OR SELECTED BY THE
8 DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION 1278B OR ON 1 OR MORE ASSESSMENTS
9 DEVELOPED OR SELECTED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL
10 ACADEMY THAT MEASURE A PUPIL'S UNDERSTANDING OF THE SUBJECT AREA
11 CONTENT EXPECTATIONS OR GUIDELINES THAT APPLY TO THE CREDIT.

12 (C) A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SHALL ALSO
13 GRANT A PUPIL A CREDIT IF THE PUPIL EARNS A QUALIFYING SCORE, AS
14 DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT, ON THE ASSESSMENTS DEVELOPED OR
15 SELECTED FOR THE SUBJECT AREA BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION 1278B
16 OR THE PUPIL EARNS A QUALIFYING SCORE, AS DETERMINED BY THE SCHOOL
17 DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY, ON 1 OR MORE ASSESSMENTS
18 DEVELOPED OR SELECTED BY THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL
19 ACADEMY THAT MEASURE A PUPIL'S UNDERSTANDING OF THE SUBJECT AREA
20 CONTENT EXPECTATIONS OR GUIDELINES THAT APPLY TO THE CREDIT.

21 (5) IF A HIGH SCHOOL IS DESIGNATED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF
22 PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AS A SPECIALTY SCHOOL AND THE HIGH SCHOOL MEETS
23 THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (6), THEN THE PUPILS OF THE HIGH
24 SCHOOL ARE NOT REQUIRED TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THE 4 CREDITS IN
25 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS OR THE 2 CREDITS IN SOCIAL SCIENCE REQUIRED
26 UNDER SUBSECTION (1) (A) AND THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL
27 ACADEMY IS NOT REQUIRED TO ENSURE THAT EACH PUPIL IS OFFERED THE

1 CURRICULUM NECESSARY FOR MEETING THOSE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS OR
2 SOCIAL SCIENCE CREDIT REQUIREMENTS. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC
3 INSTRUCTION MAY DESIGNATE UP TO 15 HIGH SCHOOLS THAT MEET THE
4 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION AS SPECIALTY SCHOOLS. SUBJECT TO
5 THIS MAXIMUM NUMBER, THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION SHALL
6 DESIGNATE A HIGH SCHOOL AS A SPECIALTY SCHOOL IF THE SUPERINTENDENT
7 OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION FINDS THAT THE HIGH SCHOOL MEETS ALL OF THE
8 FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

9 (A) THE HIGH SCHOOL INCORPORATES A SIGNIFICANT READING AND
10 WRITING COMPONENT THROUGHOUT ITS CURRICULUM.

11 (B) THE HIGH SCHOOL USES A SPECIALIZED, INNOVATIVE, AND
12 RIGOROUS CURRICULUM IN SUCH AREAS AS PERFORMING ARTS, FOREIGN
13 LANGUAGE, EXTENSIVE USE OF INTERNSHIPS, OR OTHER LEARNING
14 INNOVATIONS THAT CONFORM TO PIONEERING INNOVATIONS AMONG OTHER
15 LEADING NATIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS.

16 (6) A HIGH SCHOOL THAT IS DESIGNATED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF
17 PUBLIC INSTRUCTION AS A SPECIALTY SCHOOL UNDER SUBSECTION (5) IS
18 ONLY EXEMPT FROM REQUIREMENTS AS DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (5) AS
19 LONG AS THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION FINDS THAT THE
20 HIGH SCHOOL CONTINUES TO MEET ALL OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

21 (A) THE HIGH SCHOOL CLEARLY STATES TO PROSPECTIVE PUPILS AND
22 THEIR PARENTS THAT IT DOES NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE GENERAL
23 DIPLOMA CURRICULUM UNDER THIS SECTION BUT IS A DESIGNATED SPECIALTY
24 SCHOOL THAT IS EXEMPT FROM SOME OF THOSE REQUIREMENTS AND THAT A
25 PUPIL WHO ENROLLS IN THE HIGH SCHOOL AND SUBSEQUENTLY TRANSFERS TO
26 A HIGH SCHOOL THAT IS NOT A SPECIALTY SCHOOL MEETING THE
27 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE

1 REQUIREMENTS OF THE MICHIGAN MERIT STANDARD UNDER SECTIONS 1278A
2 AND 1278B OR OF THE GENERAL DIPLOMA CURRICULUM UNDER THIS SECTION.

3 (B) FOR THE MOST RECENT YEAR FOR WHICH THE DATA ARE AVAILABLE,
4 THE MEAN SCORES ON BOTH THE MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE PORTIONS OF THE
5 ACT EXAMINATION FOR THE PUPILS OF THE HIGH SCHOOL EXCEED BY AT
6 LEAST 10% THE MEAN SCORES ON THE MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE PORTIONS
7 OF THE ACT EXAMINATION FOR THE PUPILS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN
8 WHICH THE GREATEST NUMBER OF THE PUPILS OF THE HIGH SCHOOL RESIDE.

9 (C) FOR THE MOST RECENT YEAR FOR WHICH THE DATA ARE AVAILABLE,
10 THE HIGH SCHOOL HAD A GRADUATION RATE OF AT LEAST 85%, AS
11 DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

12 (D) FOR THE MOST RECENT YEAR FOR WHICH THE DATA ARE AVAILABLE,
13 AT LEAST 75% OF THE PUPILS WHO GRADUATED FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL THE
14 PRECEDING YEAR ARE ENROLLED IN A POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION.

15 (E) ALL PUPILS OF THE HIGH SCHOOL ARE REQUIRED TO MEET THE
16 MATHEMATICS CREDIT REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (1) (A), WITH NO
17 MODIFICATION OF THESE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (8), AND EACH
18 PUPIL IS OFFERED THE CURRICULUM NECESSARY TO MEET THIS REQUIREMENT.

19 (F) ALL PUPILS OF THE HIGH SCHOOL ARE REQUIRED TO MEET THE
20 SCIENCE CREDIT REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (1) (A) AND ARE ALSO
21 REQUIRED TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AT LEAST 2 ADDITIONAL SCIENCE
22 CREDITS, FOR A TOTAL OF AT LEAST 4 SCIENCE CREDITS, WITH NO
23 MODIFICATION OF THESE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (8), AND EACH
24 PUPIL IS OFFERED THE CURRICULUM NECESSARY TO MEET THIS REQUIREMENT.

25 (7) IF A PUPIL SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES 1 OR MORE OF THE HIGH
26 SCHOOL CREDITS REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (1) BEFORE ENTERING HIGH
27 SCHOOL, THE PUPIL SHALL BE GIVEN HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT FOR THAT

1 CREDIT.

2 (8) THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF A PUPIL MAY REQUEST A
3 PERSONAL CURRICULUM UNDER THIS SUBSECTION FOR THE PUPIL THAT
4 MODIFIES CERTAIN OF THE GENERAL DIPLOMA CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS
5 UNDER SUBSECTION (1). IF ALL OF THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER THIS
6 SUBSECTION FOR A PERSONAL CURRICULUM ARE MET, THEN THE BOARD OF A
7 SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY
8 MAY AWARD A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA TO A PUPIL WHO SUCCESSFULLY
9 COMPLETES HIS OR HER PERSONAL CURRICULUM EVEN IF IT DOES NOT MEET
10 THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE GENERAL DIPLOMA CURRICULUM REQUIRED UNDER
11 SUBSECTION (1). ALL OF THE FOLLOWING APPLY TO A PERSONAL
12 CURRICULUM:

13 (A) THE PERSONAL CURRICULUM SHALL BE DEVELOPED BY A GROUP THAT
14 INCLUDES AT LEAST THE PUPIL, AT LEAST 1 OF THE PUPIL'S PARENTS OR
15 THE PUPIL'S LEGAL GUARDIAN, AND THE PUPIL'S HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR
16 OR ANOTHER DESIGNEE QUALIFIED TO ACT IN A COUNSELING ROLE UNDER
17 SECTION 1233 OR 1233A SELECTED BY THE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL. IN
18 ADDITION, FOR A PUPIL WHO RECEIVES SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES, A
19 SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST SHOULD ALSO BE INCLUDED IN THIS GROUP.

20 (B) THE PERSONAL CURRICULUM SHALL INCORPORATE AS MUCH OF THE
21 SUBJECT AREA CONTENT EXPECTATIONS OF THE GENERAL DIPLOMA CURRICULUM
22 REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (1) AS IS PRACTICABLE FOR THE PUPIL;
23 SHALL ESTABLISH MEASURABLE GOALS THAT THE PUPIL MUST ACHIEVE WHILE
24 ENROLLED IN HIGH SCHOOL AND SHALL PROVIDE A METHOD TO EVALUATE
25 WHETHER THE PUPIL ACHIEVED THESE GOALS; AND SHALL BE ALIGNED WITH
26 THE PUPIL'S EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN DEVELOPED UNDER SECTION
27 1278B(11).

1 (C) BEFORE IT TAKES EFFECT, THE PERSONAL CURRICULUM MUST BE
2 AGREED TO BY THE PUPIL'S PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN AND BY THE
3 SUPERINTENDENT OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE
4 PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE.

5 (D) THE PUPIL'S PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN SHALL BE IN
6 COMMUNICATION WITH EACH OF THE PUPIL'S TEACHERS AT LEAST ONCE EACH
7 CALENDAR QUARTER TO MONITOR THE PUPIL'S PROGRESS TOWARD THE GOALS
8 CONTAINED IN THE PUPIL'S PERSONAL CURRICULUM.

9 (E) REVISIONS MAY BE MADE IN THE PERSONAL CURRICULUM IF THE
10 REVISIONS ARE DEVELOPED AND AGREED TO IN THE SAME MANNER AS THE
11 ORIGINAL PERSONAL CURRICULUM.

12 (F) THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND SCIENCE CREDIT REQUIREMENTS
13 OF SUBSECTION (1) ARE NOT SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION AS PART OF A
14 PERSONAL CURRICULUM UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.

15 (G) THE MATHEMATICS CREDIT REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (1) MAY
16 BE MODIFIED AS PART OF A PERSONAL CURRICULUM ONLY AFTER THE PUPIL
17 HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED AT LEAST 1-1/2 CREDITS OF THE
18 MATHEMATICS CREDITS REQUIRED UNDER THAT SECTION AND ONLY IF THE
19 PUPIL SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES AT LEAST 2-1/2 TOTAL CREDITS OF THE
20 MATHEMATICS CREDITS REQUIRED UNDER THAT SECTION BEFORE COMPLETING
21 HIGH SCHOOL.

22 (H) THE CIVICS COURSE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 1166(2) IS NOT
23 SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION AS PART OF A PERSONAL CURRICULUM UNDER THIS
24 SUBSECTION.

25 (I) THE HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION CREDIT REQUIREMENT UNDER
26 SECTION 1278A(1) (A) (iii) MAY BE MODIFIED AS PART OF A PERSONAL
27 CURRICULUM ONLY IF THE MODIFICATION REQUIRES THE PUPIL TO COMPLETE

1 1 ADDITIONAL CREDIT IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, MATHEMATICS, OR
2 SCIENCE OR 1 ADDITIONAL CREDIT IN A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH.
3 THIS ADDITIONAL CREDIT MUST BE IN ADDITION TO THE NUMBER OF THOSE
4 CREDITS OTHERWISE REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (1).

5 (J) IF THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF A PUPIL REQUESTS AS
6 PART OF THE PUPIL'S PERSONAL CURRICULUM A MODIFICATION OF THE
7 GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS THAT WOULD NOT OTHERWISE
8 BE ALLOWED UNDER THIS SECTION AND DEMONSTRATES THAT THE
9 MODIFICATION IS NECESSARY BECAUSE THE PUPIL IS A CHILD WITH A
10 DISABILITY, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY MAY ALLOW
11 THAT ADDITIONAL MODIFICATION TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY BECAUSE OF THE
12 PUPIL'S DISABILITY IF THE GROUP UNDER SUBDIVISION (A) DETERMINES
13 THAT THE MODIFICATION IS CONSISTENT WITH BOTH THE PUPIL'S
14 EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN UNDER SECTION 1278B(11) AND THE
15 PUPIL'S INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM. IF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF
16 PUBLIC INSTRUCTION HAS REASON TO BELIEVE THAT A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR
17 A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY IS ALLOWING MODIFICATIONS INCONSISTENT WITH
18 THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBDIVISION, THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC
19 INSTRUCTION SHALL MONITOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL
20 ACADEMY TO ENSURE THAT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OR PUBLIC SCHOOL
21 ACADEMY'S POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND PRACTICES ARE IN COMPLIANCE
22 WITH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ADDITIONAL MODIFICATIONS UNDER THIS
23 SUBDIVISION. AS USED IN THIS SUBDIVISION, "CHILD WITH A DISABILITY"
24 MEANS THAT TERM AS DEFINED IN 20 USC 1401.

25 (K) IF A PUPIL TRANSFERS TO A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL
26 ACADEMY FROM OUT OF STATE OR FROM A NONPUBLIC SCHOOL, THE PUPIL'S
27 PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN MAY REQUEST, AS PART OF THE PUPIL'S

1 PERSONAL CURRICULUM, A MODIFICATION OF THE GENERAL DIPLOMA
2 CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS THAT WOULD NOT OTHERWISE BE ALLOWED UNDER
3 THIS SECTION. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY MAY
4 ALLOW THIS ADDITIONAL MODIFICATION FOR A TRANSFER PUPIL IF ALL OF
5 THE FOLLOWING ARE MET:

6 (i) THE TRANSFER PUPIL HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED AT LEAST THE
7 EQUIVALENT OF 2 YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT OUT OF STATE OR AT A
8 NONPUBLIC SCHOOL. THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY MAY
9 USE APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT EXAMINATIONS TO DETERMINE WHAT CREDITS,
10 IF ANY, THE PUPIL HAS EARNED OUT OF STATE OR AT A NONPUBLIC SCHOOL
11 THAT MAY BE USED TO SATISFY THE CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS OF THE
12 GENERAL DIPLOMA CURRICULUM AND THIS SUBDIVISION.

13 (ii) THE TRANSFER PUPIL'S PERSONAL CURRICULUM INCORPORATES AS
14 MUCH OF THE SUBJECT AREA CONTENT EXPECTATIONS OF THE GENERAL
15 DIPLOMA CURRICULUM AS IS PRACTICABLE FOR THE PUPIL.

16 (iii) THE TRANSFER PUPIL'S PERSONAL CURRICULUM REQUIRES THE
17 PUPIL TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AT LEAST 1 MATHEMATICS COURSE DURING
18 HIS OR HER FINAL YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT. IN ADDITION, IF
19 THE TRANSFER PUPIL IS ENROLLED IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC
20 SCHOOL ACADEMY FOR AT LEAST 1 FULL SCHOOL YEAR, BOTH OF THE
21 FOLLOWING APPLY:

22 (A) THE TRANSFER PUPIL'S PERSONAL CURRICULUM SHALL REQUIRE
23 THAT THIS MATHEMATICS COURSE IS AT LEAST ALGEBRA I.

24 (B) IF THE TRANSFER PUPIL DEMONSTRATES THAT HE OR SHE HAS
25 MASTERED THE CONTENT OF ALGEBRA I, THE TRANSFER PUPIL'S PERSONAL
26 CURRICULUM SHALL REQUIRE THAT THIS MATHEMATICS COURSE IS A COURSE
27 NORMALLY TAKEN AFTER COMPLETING ALGEBRA I.

1 (iv) THE TRANSFER PUPIL'S PERSONAL CURRICULUM INCLUDES THE
2 CIVICS COURSE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 1166(2).

3 (l) IF A PUPIL IS AT LEAST AGE 18 OR IS AN EMANCIPATED MINOR,
4 THE PUPIL MAY ACT ON HIS OR HER OWN BEHALF UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.

5 (m) THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A PUPIL ENROLLED IN A
6 HIGH SCHOOL THAT IS DESIGNATED AS A SPECIALTY SCHOOL UNDER
7 SUBSECTION (5) AND THAT IS EXEMPT UNDER THAT SUBSECTION FROM THE
8 ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCE CREDIT REQUIREMENTS UNDER
9 SUBSECTION (1) (A).

10 (9) IF A PUPIL RECEIVES SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES, THE
11 PUPIL'S INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
12 INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT, TITLE VI OF PUBLIC LAW
13 91-230, SHALL IDENTIFY THE APPROPRIATE COURSE OR COURSES OF STUDY
14 AND IDENTIFY THE SUPPORTS, ACCOMMODATIONS, AND MODIFICATIONS
15 NECESSARY TO ALLOW THE PUPIL TO PROGRESS IN THE CURRICULAR
16 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION, OR IN A PERSONAL CURRICULUM AS
17 PROVIDED UNDER SUBSECTION (8), AND MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A HIGH
18 SCHOOL DIPLOMA.

19 (10) THE BOARD OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A
20 PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY THAT OPERATES A HIGH SCHOOL SHALL ENSURE THAT
21 EACH PUPIL IS OFFERED THE CURRICULUM NECESSARY FOR THE PUPIL TO
22 MEET THE CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION. THE BOARD OR
23 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY PROVIDE THIS CURRICULUM BY PROVIDING THE
24 CREDITS SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION, BY USING ALTERNATIVE
25 INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY METHODS SUCH AS ALTERNATIVE COURSE WORK,
26 HUMANITIES COURSE SEQUENCES, CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION,
27 INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY COURSES, OR CAREER AND TECHNICAL PREPARATION

1 EDUCATION, OR BY A COMBINATION OF THESE. SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND
2 PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMIES THAT OPERATE CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
3 PROGRAMS ARE ENCOURAGED TO INTEGRATE THE CREDIT REQUIREMENTS OF
4 THIS SECTION INTO THOSE PROGRAMS.

5 (11) IF THE BOARD OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS
6 OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY WANTS ITS HIGH SCHOOL TO BE ACCREDITED
7 UNDER SECTION 1280, THE BOARD OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL ENSURE
8 THAT ALL ELEMENTS OF THE CURRICULUM REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION ARE
9 MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL AFFECTED PUPILS. IF A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR
10 PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY DOES NOT OFFER ALL OF THE REQUIRED CREDITS,
11 THE BOARD OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
12 PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SHALL ENSURE THAT THE PUPIL HAS ACCESS TO THE
13 REQUIRED CREDITS BY ANOTHER MEANS, SUCH AS ENROLLMENT IN A
14 POSTSECONDARY COURSE UNDER THE POSTSECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS
15 ACT, 1996 PA 160, MCL 388.511 TO 388.524; ENROLLMENT IN AN ONLINE
16 COURSE; A COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT WITH A NEIGHBORING SCHOOL
17 DISTRICT OR WITH A PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY; OR GRANTING APPROVAL
18 UNDER SECTION 6(6) OF THE STATE SCHOOL AID ACT OF 1979, MCL
19 388.1606, FOR THE PUPIL TO BE COUNTED IN MEMBERSHIP IN ANOTHER
20 SCHOOL DISTRICT.

21 (12) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION, IF A
22 SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY IS UNABLE TO IMPLEMENT ALL
23 OF THE CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION FOR PUPILS ENTERING
24 GRADE 9 IN 2007 OR IS UNABLE TO IMPLEMENT ANOTHER REQUIREMENT OF
25 THIS SECTION, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY MAY
26 APPLY TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR PERMISSION TO PHASE IN 1 OR MORE OF THE
27 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION. TO APPLY, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR

1 PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY SHALL SUBMIT A PROPOSED PHASE-IN PLAN TO THE
2 DEPARTMENT. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL APPROVE A PHASE-IN PLAN IF THE
3 DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THE PLAN WILL RESULT IN THE SCHOOL
4 DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY MAKING SATISFACTORY PROGRESS
5 TOWARD FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION. IF
6 THE DEPARTMENT DISAPPROVES A PROPOSED PHASE-IN PLAN, THE DEPARTMENT
7 SHALL WORK WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY TO
8 DEVELOP A SATISFACTORY PLAN THAT MAY BE APPROVED. HOWEVER, IF
9 LEGISLATION IS ENACTED THAT ADDS SECTION 1290 TO ALLOW SCHOOL
10 DISTRICTS AND PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMIES TO APPLY FOR A CONTRACT THAT
11 WAIVES CERTAIN STATE OR FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS, THEN THIS SUBSECTION
12 DOES NOT APPLY BUT A SCHOOL DISTRICT OR PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMY MAY
13 TAKE ACTION AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 1278B(13). THIS SUBSECTION DOES
14 NOT APPLY TO A HIGH SCHOOL THAT IS DESIGNATED AS A SPECIALTY SCHOOL
15 UNDER SUBSECTION (5) AND THAT IS EXEMPT UNDER THAT SUBSECTION FROM
16 THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCE REQUIREMENTS UNDER
17 SUBSECTION (1) (A).

18 Sec. 1280. (1) The board of a school district that does not
19 want to be subject to the measures described in this section shall
20 ensure that each public school within the school district is
21 accredited.

22 (2) As used in subsection (1), and subject to subsection (6),
23 "accredited" means certified by the superintendent of public
24 instruction as having met or exceeded standards established under
25 this section for 6 areas of school operation: administration and
26 school organization, curricula, staff, school plant and facilities,
27 school and community relations, and school improvement plans and

1 student performance. The building-level evaluation used in the
2 accreditation process shall include, but is not limited to, school
3 data collection, self-study, visitation and validation,
4 determination of performance data to be used, and the development
5 of a school improvement plan.

6 (3) The department shall develop and distribute to all public
7 schools proposed accreditation standards. Upon distribution of the
8 proposed standards, the department shall hold statewide public
9 hearings for the purpose of receiving testimony concerning the
10 standards. After a review of the testimony, the department shall
11 revise and submit the proposed standards to the superintendent of
12 public instruction. After a review and revision, if appropriate, of
13 the proposed standards, the superintendent of public instruction
14 shall submit the proposed standards to the senate and house
15 committees that have the responsibility for education legislation.
16 Upon approval by these committees, the department shall distribute
17 to all public schools the standards to be applied to each school
18 for accreditation purposes. The superintendent of public
19 instruction shall review and update the accreditation standards
20 annually using the process prescribed under this subsection.

21 (4) The superintendent of public instruction shall develop and
22 distribute to all public schools standards for determining that a
23 school is eligible for summary accreditation under subsection (6).
24 The standards shall be developed, reviewed, approved, and
25 distributed using the same process as prescribed in subsection (3)
26 for accreditation standards, and shall be finally distributed and
27 implemented not later than December 31, 1994.

1 (5) The standards for accreditation or summary accreditation
2 under this section shall include as criteria pupil performance on
3 Michigan education assessment program (MEAP) tests and on the
4 Michigan merit examination under section 1279g and, until the
5 Michigan merit examination has been fully implemented, the
6 percentage of pupils achieving state endorsement under section
7 1279, but shall not be based solely on pupil performance on MEAP
8 tests or the Michigan merit examination or on the percentage of
9 pupils achieving state endorsement under section 1279. The
10 standards shall also include as criteria multiple year change in
11 pupil performance on MEAP tests and the Michigan merit examination
12 and, until after the Michigan merit examination is fully
13 implemented, multiple year change in the percentage of pupils
14 achieving state endorsement under section 1279. If it is necessary
15 for the superintendent of public instruction to revise
16 accreditation or summary accreditation standards established under
17 subsection (3) or (4) to comply with this subsection, the revised
18 standards shall be developed, reviewed, approved, and distributed
19 using the same process as prescribed in subsection (3).

20 (6) If the superintendent of public instruction determines
21 that a public school has met the standards established under
22 subsection (4) or (5) for summary accreditation, the school is
23 considered to be accredited without the necessity for a full
24 building-level evaluation under subsection (2).

25 (7) If the superintendent of public instruction determines
26 that a school has not met the standards established under
27 subsection (4) or (5) for summary accreditation but that the school

1 is making progress toward meeting those standards, or if, based on
2 a full building-level evaluation under subsection (2), the
3 superintendent of public instruction determines that a school has
4 not met the standards for accreditation but is making progress
5 toward meeting those standards, the school is in interim status and
6 is subject to a full building-level evaluation as provided in this
7 section.

8 (8) If a school has not met the standards established under
9 subsection (4) or (5) for summary accreditation and is not eligible
10 for interim status under subsection (7), the school is unaccredited
11 and subject to the measures provided in this section.

12 (9) Beginning with the 2002-2003 school year, if at least 5%
13 of a public school's answer sheets from the administration of the
14 Michigan educational assessment program (MEAP) tests are lost by
15 the department or by a state contractor and if the public school
16 can verify that the answer sheets were collected from pupils and
17 forwarded to the department or the contractor, the department shall
18 not assign an accreditation score or school report card grade to
19 the public school for that subject area for the corresponding year
20 for the purposes of determining state accreditation under this
21 section. The department shall not assign an accreditation score or
22 school report card grade to the public school for that subject area
23 until the results of all tests for the next year are available.

24 (10) Subsection (9) does not preclude the department from
25 determining whether a public school or a school district has
26 achieved adequate yearly progress for the school year in which the
27 answer sheets were lost for the purposes of the no child left

1 behind act of 2001, Public Law 107-110. However, the department
2 shall ensure that a public school or the school district is not
3 penalized when determining adequate yearly progress status due to
4 the fact that the public school's MEAP answer sheets were lost by
5 the department or by a state contractor, but shall not require a
6 public school or school district to retest pupils or produce scores
7 from another test for this purpose.

8 (11) The superintendent of public instruction shall annually
9 review and evaluate for accreditation purposes the performance of
10 each school that is unaccredited and as many of the schools that
11 are in interim status as permitted by the department's resources.

12 (12) The superintendent of public instruction shall, and the
13 intermediate school district to which a school district is
14 constituent, a consortium of intermediate school districts, or any
15 combination thereof may, provide technical assistance, as
16 appropriate, to a school that is unaccredited or that is in interim
17 status upon request of the board of the school district in which
18 the school is located. If requests to the superintendent of public
19 instruction for technical assistance exceed the capacity, priority
20 shall be given to unaccredited schools.

21 (13) A school that has been unaccredited for 3 consecutive
22 years is subject to 1 or more of the following measures, as
23 determined by the superintendent of public instruction:

24 (a) The superintendent of public instruction or his or her
25 designee shall appoint at the expense of the affected school
26 district an administrator of the school until the school becomes
27 accredited.

1 (b) A parent, legal guardian, or person in loco parentis of a
2 child who attends the school may send his or her child to any
3 accredited public school with an appropriate grade level within the
4 school district.

5 (c) The school, with the approval of the superintendent of
6 public instruction, shall align itself with an existing research-
7 based school improvement model or establish an affiliation for
8 providing assistance to the school with a college or university
9 located in this state.

10 (d) The school shall be closed.

11 (14) The superintendent of public instruction shall evaluate
12 the school accreditation program and the status of schools under
13 this section and shall submit an annual report based upon the
14 evaluation to the senate and house committees that have the
15 responsibility for education legislation. The report shall address
16 the reasons each unaccredited school is not accredited and shall
17 recommend legislative action that will result in the accreditation
18 of all public schools in this state.

19 (15) Beginning with the 2008-2009 school year, a high school
20 shall not be accredited by the department unless the department
21 determines that the high school is providing or has otherwise
22 ensured that all pupils have access to all of the elements of the
23 **MICHIGAN MERIT STANDARD** curriculum required under sections 1278a
24 and 1278b **OR THE GENERAL DIPLOMA CURRICULUM REQUIRED UNDER SECTION**
25 **1278C**. If it is necessary for the superintendent of public
26 instruction to revise accreditation or summary accreditation
27 standards established under subsection (3) or (4) to comply with

1 the changes made to this section by the amendatory act that added
2 this subsection, the revised standards shall be developed,
3 reviewed, approved, and distributed using the same process as
4 prescribed in subsection (3).