

HOUSE BILL NO. 5927

September 11, 2024, Introduced by Reps. Jaime Greene, Martin and Johnsen and referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled
"The revised school code,"
by amending sections 1278a and 1278b (MCL 380.1278a and 380.1278b),
as amended by 2022 PA 105, and by adding section 1278e.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

- 1 Sec. 1278a. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section
- 2 or section 1278b, the board of a school district or board of
- 3 directors of a public school academy shall not award a high school
- 4 diploma to a pupil unless the pupil meets all of the following:
- 5 (a) Has successfully completed all of the following credit

requirements of the Michigan merit standard before graduating from high school:

(i) At least 4 credits in mathematics that are aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b, including completion of at least **1 credit in algebra I** ~~, and 1 credit in geometry. , and algebra II, or an integrated sequence of this course content that consists of 3 credits, and an additional mathematics credit, such as trigonometry, statistics, precalculus, calculus, applied math, accounting, business math, a retake of algebra II, or, for only pupils entering grade 8 before 2023, a course in financial literacy as described in section 1165. A pupil may complete algebra II over 2 years with 2 credits awarded or over 1.5 years with 1.5 credits awarded for the purposes of this section and section 1278b. A pupil also may partially or fully fulfill the algebra II requirement by completing a department-approved formal career and technical education program or curriculum, such as a program or curriculum in electronics, machining, construction, welding, engineering, computer science, or renewable energy, and in that program or curriculum successfully completing the same content as the algebra II benchmarks assessed on the department-prescribed state high school assessment, as determined by the department. The department shall post on its website guidelines for implementation of the immediately preceding sentence. Each pupil must successfully complete at least 1 mathematics course during his or her the~~ **pupil's** final year of high school enrollment. ~~This subparagraph does not require completion of mathematics courses in any particular sequence. A pupil may fulfill the remaining 2 credits in~~ **mathematics through completion of any of the following:**

1 (A) 1 credit in trigonometry.

2 (B) 1 credit in algebra II.

3 (C) 1 credit in precalculus.

4 (D) 1 credit in calculus.

5 (E) 1 credit in applied mathematics.

6 (F) 1 credit in statistics.

7 (G) 1/2 credit in accounting.

8 (H) 1/2 credit in business mathematics.

9 (I) 1/2 credit in construction mathematics.

10 (J) 1/2 credit in algebra-based physics.

11 (K) 1/2 credit in algebra-based chemistry.

12 (L) 1/2 credit in economics with a focus on mathematics.

13 (M) Up to 2 credits from a department-approved formal career
14 and technical education program.

15 (N) Up to 2 credits from mathematics courses developed by the
16 board of the school district or intermediate school district or
17 board of directors of the public school academy in which the pupil
18 is enrolled.

19 (ii) At least 3 credits in social science that are aligned with
20 subject area content expectations developed by the department and
21 approved by the state board under section 1278b, including
22 completion of at least 1 credit in United States history and
23 geography, 1 credit in world history and geography, 1/2 credit in
24 economics, and the civics course described in section 1166(2). For
25 only pupils entering grade 8 before 2023, the 1/2-credit economics
26 requirement may be satisfied by completion of at least a 1/2-credit
27 course in personal economics that includes a financial literacy
28 component as described in section 1165, if that course covers the
29 subject area content expectations for economics developed by the

department and approved by the state board under section 1278b. The 1/2 credit in economics required under this subparagraph cannot be fulfilled by completion of the 1/2 credit course in personal finance described in subsection (3).

(iii) At least 1 credit in subject matter that includes both health and physical education aligned with guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b, or at least 1/2 credit in health aligned with guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b and at least 1/2 credit awarded by the school district or public school academy for approved participation in extracurricular athletics or other extracurricular activities involving physical activity.

(iv) At least 1 credit in visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts ~~, as defined by the department,~~ that is aligned with guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b. ~~A school district or public school academy is strongly encouraged to offer visual arts and performing arts courses.~~ **The credit in visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts under this subparagraph may be fulfilled through completion of any of the following:**

(A) 1 credit in general music.

(B) 1 credit in marching band.

(C) 1 credit in concert band.

(D) 1 credit in orchestra.

(E) 1 credit in choral music.

(F) 1 credit in strings.

(G) 1 credit in music theory.

(H) 1 credit in keyboard.

- 1 (I) 1 credit in jazz ensemble.
- 2 (J) 1 credit in wind ensemble.
- 3 (K) 1 credit in choir.
- 4 (L) 1 credit in art.
- 5 (M) 1 credit in visual arts.
- 6 (N) 1 credit in visual studies.
- 7 (O) 1 credit in drawing.
- 8 (P) 1 credit in painting.
- 9 (Q) 1 credit in ceramics and pottery.
- 10 (R) 1 credit in design.
- 11 (S) 1 credit in art appreciation.
- 12 (T) 1 credit in illustration.
- 13 (U) 1 credit in computer graphics and design.
- 14 (V) 1 credit in video.
- 15 (W) 1 credit in photography and film.
- 16 (X) 1 credit in art history.
- 17 (Y) 1 credit in art criticism.
- 18 (Z) 1 credit in fiber arts.
- 19 (AA) 1 credit in jewelry.
- 20 (BB) 1 credit in yearbook.
- 21 (CC) 1 credit in theater.
- 22 (DD) 1 credit in graphic design.
- 23 (EE) 1 credit in shop.
- 24 (FF) 1 credit in culinary studies.
- 25 (GG) 1 credit in computer science. A course in computer
- 26 science may not be used to fulfill both the visual arts credit
- 27 required under this section and the science requirement of section
- 28 1278b(1) (b) .
- 29 (HH) 1 credit from a department-approved formal career and

1 technical education program.

2 (II) 1 credit in a visual arts course developed by the board
3 of the school district or intermediate school district or board of
4 directors of the public school academy in which the pupil is
5 enrolled.

6 (v) Beginning with pupils entering high school in the 2028-
7 2029 school year, at least 2 credits in future skills that are
8 aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the
9 department and approved by the state board under section 1278b,
10 including completion of the 1/2 credit course in personal finance
11 described in subsection (3). The remaining 1-1/2 credits may be
12 fulfilled through completion of any of the following:

13 (A) Any of the courses described in subparagraph (i) or in
14 section 1278b(1)(a) and (b). A course used to fulfill a credit
15 under this subparagraph may not be used to fulfill any other credit
16 requirement under this section or section 1278b.

17 (B) A department-approved formal career and technical
18 education program.

19 (C) Courses developed by the board of the school district or
20 intermediate school district or board of directors of the public
21 school academy in which the pupil is enrolled.

22 (vi) ~~(v)~~ The credit requirements specified in section 1278b(1).

23 (b) Meets the online course or learning experience requirement
24 of this subsection. A school district or public school academy
25 shall provide the basic level of technology and internet access
26 required by the state board to complete the online course or
27 learning experience. For a pupil to meet this requirement, the
28 pupil must meet either of the following, as determined by the
29 school district or public school academy:

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

3 (ii) The pupil's school district or public school academy has
4 integrated an online experience throughout the high school
5 curriculum by ensuring that each teacher of each course that
6 provides the required credits of the Michigan merit curriculum has
7 integrated an online experience into the course.

8 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, and in
9 addition to the requirements under subsection (1), the board of a
10 school district or board of directors of a public school academy
11 shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil
12 has successfully completed during grades K to 12 at least 2 credits
13 that are grade-appropriate in a language other than English or
14 course work or other learning experiences that are substantially
15 equivalent to 2 credits in a language other than English, based on
16 guidelines developed by the department. A pupil may partially or
17 fully fulfill ~~1 credit of~~ this requirement by completing a
18 department-approved formal career and technical education program
19 or curriculum or by completing visual or performing arts
20 instruction that is in addition to the requirements under
21 subsection (1)(a)(iv). The board of a school district or board of
22 directors of a public school academy is strongly encouraged to
23 ensure that all pupils complete ~~at least 1 credit~~ **the 2 credits** in
24 a language other than English **required under this subsection** in
25 grades K to ~~6-8~~. For the purposes of this subsection, both of the
26 following apply:

27 (a) American Sign Language is considered to be a language
28 other than English.

29 (b) **Computer coding is considered to be a language other than**

1 **English.**

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

4 (3) Beginning with pupils entering grade 8 in 2023, the board
5 of a school district or board of directors of a public school
6 academy shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the
7 pupil completes a 1/2 credit course in personal finance that aligns
8 with subject area content expectations developed by the department
9 and approved by the state board under section 1278b. The 1/2 credit
10 course in personal finance must fulfill 1/2 credit of ~~mathematics~~
11 ~~required under subsection (1) (a) (i), 1/2 credit of visual arts,~~
12 ~~performing arts, or applied arts required under subsection~~
13 ~~(1) (a) (iv), or 1/2 credit of a language other than English required~~
14 ~~under subsection (2), as determined by the board of the school~~
15 ~~district or board of directors of the public school academy in~~
16 ~~which the pupil is enrolled.~~ **future skills required under**
17 **subsection (1) (a) (v).** The 1/2 credit course in personal finance
18 required under this subsection may be fulfilled through a
19 department-approved formal career and technical education program
20 or curriculum that aligns with the subject area content
21 expectations developed by the department and approved by the state
22 board for the credit under section 1278b.

23 (4) The requirements under this section and section 1278b for
24 a high school diploma are in addition to any local requirements
25 imposed by the board of a school district or board of directors of
26 a public school academy. The board of a school district or board of
27 directors of a public school academy, as a local requirement for a
28 high school diploma, may require a pupil to complete the Michigan
29 merit examination under section 1279g or may require a pupil to

1 participate in the MIAccess assessments if appropriate for the
2 pupil.

3 (5) For the purposes of this section and section 1278b, all of
4 the following apply:

5 (a) A pupil is considered to have completed a credit if the
6 pupil successfully completes the subject area content expectations
7 or guidelines developed by the department that apply to the credit.
8 For a career and technical education credit, a school district or
9 public school academy may supplement those content expectations and
10 guidelines with additional guidelines developed by the school
11 district or public school academy.

12 (b) A school district or public school academy shall base its
13 determination of whether a pupil has successfully completed the
14 subject area content expectations or guidelines developed by the
15 department that apply to a credit at least in part on the pupil's
16 performance on assessments developed or selected by the department
17 or on 1 or more assessments developed or selected by the school
18 district or public school academy that measure a pupil's
19 understanding of the subject area content expectations or
20 guidelines that apply to the credit.

21 (c) A school district or public school academy shall also
22 grant a pupil a credit if the pupil earns a qualifying score, as
23 determined by the department, on assessments developed or selected
24 for the subject area by the department or the pupil earns a
25 qualifying score, as determined by the school district or public
26 school academy, on 1 or more assessments developed or selected by
27 the school district or public school academy that measure a pupil's
28 understanding of the subject area content expectations or
29 guidelines that apply to the credit.

(6) If a high school is designated by the superintendent of public instruction as a specialty school and the high school meets the requirements of subsection (7), the pupils of the high school are not required to successfully complete the 4 credits in English language arts required under section 1278b(1)(a) or the 3 credits in social science required under subsection (1)(a)(ii) and the school district or public school academy is not required to ensure that each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for meeting those English language arts or social science credit requirements. The superintendent of public instruction may designate up to 15 high schools that meet the requirements of this subsection as specialty schools. Subject to this maximum number, the superintendent of public instruction shall designate a high school as a specialty school if the superintendent of public instruction finds that the high school meets all of the following criteria:

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

(b) The high school uses a specialized, innovative, and rigorous curriculum in such areas as performing arts, foreign language, extensive use of internships, or other learning innovations that conform to pioneering innovations among other leading national or international high schools.

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

(a) The high school clearly states to prospective pupils and their parents that it does not meet the requirements of the

1 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278b but is
2 a designated specialty school that is exempt from some of those
3 requirements and that a pupil who enrolls in the high school and
4 subsequently transfers to a high school that is not a specialty
5 school meeting the requirements of this subsection will be required
6 to comply with the requirements of the Michigan merit standard
7 under this section and section 1278b.

8 (b) For the most recent year for which the data are available,
9 the mean scores on both the mathematics and science portions of the
10 applicable state assessment for the pupils of the high school
11 exceed by at least 10% the mean scores on the mathematics and
12 science portions of the applicable state assessment for the pupils
13 of the school district in which the greatest number of the pupils
14 of the high school reside.

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

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

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

25 (f) All pupils of the high school are required to meet the
26 science credit requirements of section 1278b(1)(b) and are also
27 required to successfully complete at least 1 additional science
28 credit, for a total of at least 4 science credits, with no
29 modification of these requirements under section 1278b(5), and each

1 pupil is offered the curriculum necessary to meet this requirement.

2 Sec. 1278b. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section
3 or section 1278a, as part of the requirements under section 1278a
4 the board of a school district or board of directors of a public
5 school academy shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil
6 unless the pupil has successfully completed all of the following
7 credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard before
8 graduating from high school:

9 (a) At least 4 credits in English language arts that are
10 aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the
11 department and approved by the state board under this section. **A**
12 **pupil may fulfill the credits in English language arts through**
13 **completion of any of the following:**

- 14 (i) 1 credit in English.
- 15 (ii) 1 credit in language arts.
- 16 (iii) 1 credit in grammar.
- 17 (iv) 1 credit in writing.
- 18 (v) 1 credit in poetry.
- 19 (vi) 1 credit in literature.
- 20 (vii) 1 credit in great books.
- 21 (viii) 1 credit in Shakespeare.
- 22 (ix) 1 credit in the study of dramatic literature.
- 23 (x) 1 credit in business writing.
- 24 (xi) 1 credit in school newspaper.
- 25 (xii) 1 credit in yearbook.
- 26 (xiii) 1 credit in public speaking.
- 27 (xiv) 1 credit in debate.
- 28 (xv) Up to 1 credit from a department-approved formal career

1 and technical education program.

2 (xvi) Up to 4 credits from English language arts courses
3 developed by the board of the school district or intermediate
4 school district or board of directors of the public school academy
5 in which the pupil is enrolled.

6 (b) ~~At~~ For students who entered high school before the 2028-
7 2029 school year, at least 3 credits in science that are aligned
8 with subject area content expectations developed by the department
9 and approved by the state board under this section, including
10 ~~completion of~~ and for students who entered high school after the
11 start of the 2028-2029 school year, at least 4 credits in science
12 that are aligned with subject area content expectations developed
13 by the department and approved by the state board under this
14 section. A student must complete at least 1 credit in biology and
15 ~~either 1 credit in chemistry, earth science, agricultural science,~~
16 ~~or physics. , anatomy, or agricultural science, or successfully~~
17 ~~completing a program or curriculum that provides the same content~~
18 ~~as the chemistry or physics benchmarks, as determined by the~~
19 ~~department.~~ A student may fulfill the ~~requirement~~ requirements for
20 the ~~third science credit by completing a department-approved~~
21 ~~computer science program or curriculum or formal career and~~
22 ~~technical education program or curriculum.~~ The legislature strongly
23 encourages pupils to complete a fourth credit in science, such as
24 ~~forensics, astronomy, Earth science, agricultural science,~~
25 ~~environmental science, geology, physics, chemistry, physiology, or~~
26 ~~microbiology.~~ remaining credits in science through completion of any
27 of the following:

28 (i) 1 credit in physics.

29 (ii) 1 credit in chemistry.

(iii) 1 credit in anatomy.

(iv) 1 credit in biology.

(v) 1 credit in microbiology.

(vi) 1 credit in environmental science.

(vii) 1 credit in geology.

(viii) 1 credit in computer science.

(ix) 1 credit in forensic science.

(x) 1 credit in agricultural science.

(xi) 1 credit in earth science.

(xii) 1 credit in computer literacy.

(xiii) 1 credit in keyboarding.

(xiv) 1 credit in computer applications.

(xv) 1 credit in web design.

(xvi) 1 credit in programming.

(xvii) Up to 1 credit from a science course developed by the board of the school district or intermediate school district or board of directors of the public school academy in which the student is enrolled.

(xviii) Up to 2 credits from a department-approved formal career and technical education program or curriculum.

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

(2) If a pupil successfully completes 1 or more of the high school credits required under subsection (1) or under section 1278a(1) or (3) before entering high school, the pupil must be given high school credit for that credit.

(3) For the purposes of this section and section 1278a, the department shall do all of the following:

(a) Develop subject area content expectations that apply to the credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are required under subsection (1)(a) and (b) and section 1278a(1)(a)(i) and (ii), and the 1/2 credit course in personal finance required under section 1278a(3) and develop guidelines for the remaining credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are required under this section and section 1278a(1)(a), for the online course or learning experience required under section 1278a(1)(b), and for the requirements for a language other than English under section 1278a(2). All of the following apply to these subject area content expectations and guidelines:

(i) All subject area content expectations must be consistent with the state board recommended model core academic curriculum content standards under section 1278. Subject area content expectations or guidelines must not include attitudes, beliefs, or value systems that are not essential in the legal, economic, and social structure of our society and to the personal and social responsibility of citizens of our society. The subject area content expectations must require pupils to demonstrate critical thinking skills.

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

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

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

1 (v) The department shall complete development of the subject
2 area content expectations or guidelines that apply to each of the
3 other credits required in the Michigan merit standard under
4 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a) not later than 1 year before
5 the beginning of the school year in which a pupil entering high
6 school in 2007 would normally be expected to complete the credit.

7 (vi) If the department has not completed development of the
8 subject area content expectations that apply to a particular credit
9 required in the Michigan merit standard under subsection (1) or
10 section 1278a(1)(a) by the date required under this subdivision, a
11 school district or public school academy may align the content of
12 the credit with locally adopted standards.

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

22 (b) Develop and implement a process for developing the subject
23 area content expectations and guidelines required under this
24 section. This process must provide for all of the following:

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

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

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

29 (C) Teachers, administrators, and school personnel who have

1 specialized knowledge of the subject area.

2 (D) Representatives from the business community.

3 (E) Representatives from vocational and career and technical
4 education providers.

5 (F) Government officials, including officials from the
6 legislature.

7 (G) Parents of public school pupils.

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

10 (iii) An opportunity for the public to review and provide input
11 on the proposed subject area content expectations or guidelines
12 before they are submitted to the state board for approval. The time
13 period allowed for this review and input must be at least 15
14 business days.

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

19 (d) Develop and make available material to assist school
20 districts and public school academies in implementing the
21 requirements of this section and section 1278a. This must include
22 developing guidelines for alternative instructional delivery
23 methods as described in subsection (7).

24 (4) The state board shall approve subject area content
25 expectations and guidelines developed by the department under
26 subsection (3) before those subject area content expectations and
27 guidelines may take effect. The state board also shall approve the
28 basic level of technology and internet access required for pupils
29 to complete the online course or learning experience requirement of

1 section 1278a(1) (b) .

2 (5) The parent or legal guardian of a pupil who has completed
3 grade 9, a teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who
4 currently teaches in or whose expertise is in a subject area
5 proposed to be modified by the personal curriculum, or who is
6 determined by the principal to have qualifications otherwise
7 relevant to developing a personal curriculum, or a school counselor
8 or school employee qualified to act in a counseling role under
9 section 1233 or 1233a may request a personal curriculum under this
10 subsection for the pupil that modifies certain of the Michigan
11 merit standard requirements under subsection (1) or section
12 1278a(1) (a) . If the request for a personal curriculum is made by
13 the pupil's parent or legal guardian or, if the pupil is at least
14 age 18 or is an emancipated minor, by the pupil, the school
15 district or public school academy shall develop a personal
16 curriculum for the pupil. A teacher, school counselor, or school
17 employee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233
18 or 1233a may contact a pupil's parent or legal guardian to discuss
19 the possibility and potential benefits of a personal curriculum
20 under this subsection for the pupil. If all of the requirements
21 under this subsection for completing a personal curriculum are met,
22 then the board of a school district or board of directors of a
23 public school academy may award a high school diploma to a pupil
24 who successfully completes ~~his or her~~ **the pupil's** personal
25 curriculum even if it does not meet the requirements of the
26 Michigan merit standard required under subsection (1) and section
27 1278a(1) (a) . All of the following apply to a personal curriculum:

28 (a) The personal curriculum must be developed by a group that
29 includes at least the pupil, at least 1 of the pupil's parents or

1 the pupil's legal guardian, and a teacher described in this
2 subdivision or the pupil's high school counselor or another
3 designee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233
4 or 1233a selected by the high school principal. In addition, for a
5 pupil who receives special education services, a school
6 psychologist should also be included in this group. The teacher
7 included in the group developing the personal curriculum must be a
8 teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who currently teaches
9 in or whose expertise is in a subject area being modified by the
10 personal curriculum, or who is determined by the principal to have
11 qualifications otherwise relevant to the group. This subdivision
12 does not require an in-person meeting of the group.

13 (b) The personal curriculum must do all of the following:

14 (i) Incorporate as much of the subject area content
15 expectations of the Michigan merit standard required under
16 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a) as is practicable for the
17 pupil.

18 (ii) Establish measurable goals that the pupil must achieve
19 while enrolled in high school.

20 (iii) Provide a method to evaluate whether the pupil achieved
21 the goals described in subparagraph (ii).

22 (iv) Align with the pupil's educational development plan
23 developed under subsection (11).

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

28 (d) The pupil's parent or legal guardian shall communicate
29 with each of the pupil's teachers to monitor the pupil's progress

1 toward the goals contained in the pupil's personal curriculum.

2 (e) Revisions may be made in the personal curriculum if the
3 revisions are developed and agreed to in the same manner as the
4 original personal curriculum.

5 (f) The English language arts credit requirements of
6 subsection (1) (a) and the science credit requirements of subsection
7 (1) (b) are not subject to modification as part of a personal
8 curriculum under this subsection.

9 (g) The mathematics credit requirements of section
10 1278a(1) (a) (i) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum if
11 the pupil successfully completes at least ~~3-1/2~~ **3** total credits of
12 the mathematics credits required under that section before
13 completing high school, including algebra I and geometry, and
14 successfully completes at least 1 mathematics credit during ~~his or~~
15 **her-the pupil's** final 2 years of high school. ~~The algebra II credit~~
16 ~~required under that section may be modified as part of a personal~~
17 ~~curriculum under this subsection if the pupil meets 1 or more of~~
18 ~~the following:~~

19 ~~(i) Successfully completes the same content as 1 semester of~~
20 ~~algebra II, as determined by the department.~~

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

24 ~~(iii) Enrolls in a formal career and technical education program~~
25 ~~or curriculum and in that program or curriculum successfully~~
26 ~~completes the same content as the algebra II benchmarks assessed on~~
27 ~~the department prescribed state high school assessment, as~~
28 ~~determined by the department.~~

29 ~~(iv) Successfully completes 1 semester of statistics, functions~~

1 ~~and data analysis, or technical mathematics.~~

2 (h) The social science credit requirements of section
3 1278a(1)(a)(ii) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum
4 only if all of the following are met:

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

8 (ii) The modification requires the pupil to complete 1
9 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or science
10 or 1 additional credit in a language other than English, or
11 requires the pupil to complete a formal career and technical
12 education program. This additional credit must be in addition to
13 the number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1)
14 and section 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

15 (i) The health and physical education credit requirement under
16 section 1278a(1)(a)(iii) may be modified as part of a personal
17 curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil to complete
18 1 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or
19 science or 1 additional credit in a language other than English, or
20 requires the pupil to complete a formal career and technical
21 education program. This additional credit must be in addition to
22 the number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1)
23 and section 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

24 (j) The visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts credit
25 requirement under section 1278a(1)(a)(iv) may be modified as part of
26 a personal curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil
27 to complete 1 additional credit in English language arts,
28 mathematics, or science or 1 additional credit in a language other
29 than English, or requires the pupil to complete a formal career and

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

4 (k) If the parent or legal guardian of a pupil requests as
5 part of the pupil's personal curriculum a modification of the
6 Michigan merit standard requirements that would not otherwise be
7 allowed under this section and demonstrates that the modification
8 is necessary because the pupil is a child with a disability, the
9 school district or public school academy may allow that additional
10 modification to the extent necessary because of the pupil's
11 disability if the group under subdivision (a) determines that the
12 modification is consistent with both the pupil's educational
13 development plan under subsection (11) and the pupil's
14 individualized education program. If the superintendent of public
15 instruction has reason to believe that a school district or a
16 public school academy is allowing modifications inconsistent with
17 the requirements of this subdivision, the superintendent of public
18 instruction shall monitor the school district or public school
19 academy to ensure that the school district's or public school
20 academy's policies, procedures, and practices are in compliance
21 with the requirements for additional modifications under this
22 subdivision. As used in this subdivision, "child with a disability"
23 means that term as defined in 20 USC 1401.

24 (l) If a pupil transfers to a school district or public school
25 academy from out of state or from a nonpublic school, the pupil's
26 parent or legal guardian may request, as part of the pupil's
27 personal curriculum, a modification of the Michigan merit standard
28 requirements that would not otherwise be allowed under this
29 section. The school district or public school academy may allow

1 this additional modification for a transfer pupil if all of the
2 following are met:

3 (i) The transfer pupil has successfully completed at least the
4 equivalent of 2 years of high school credit out of state or at a
5 nonpublic school. The school district or public school academy may
6 use appropriate assessment examinations to determine what credits,
7 if any, the pupil has earned out of state or at a nonpublic school
8 that may be used to satisfy the curricular requirements of the
9 Michigan merit standard and this subdivision.

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

13 (iii) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum requires the
14 pupil to successfully complete at least 1 mathematics course during
15 ~~his or her~~ **the transfer pupil's** final year of high school
16 enrollment. In addition, if the transfer pupil is enrolled in the
17 school district or public school academy for at least 1 full school
18 year, both of the following apply:

19 (A) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum must require that
20 this mathematics course is at least algebra I.

21 (B) If the transfer pupil demonstrates that ~~he or she~~ **the**
22 **transfer pupil** has mastered the content of algebra I, the transfer
23 pupil's personal curriculum must require that this mathematics
24 course is a course normally taken after completing algebra I.

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

27 (m) If a pupil is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor,
28 the pupil may act on ~~his or her~~ **the pupil's** own behalf under this
29 subsection.

1 (n) This subsection does not apply to a pupil enrolled in a
2 high school that is designated as a specialty school under section
3 1278a(6) and that is exempt under that section from the English
4 language arts requirement under subsection (1)(a) and the social
5 science credit requirement under section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

6 (o) The department or a school district or public school
7 academy shall not limit or discourage the number of pupils with a
8 personal curriculum on any basis other than the best interests of
9 each individual pupil.

10 (p) A school district or public school academy annually shall
11 notify each of its pupils and a parent or legal guardian of each of
12 its pupils that all pupils are entitled to a personal curriculum
13 under this subsection. The annual notice must include an
14 explanation of what a personal curriculum is and state that if a
15 personal curriculum is requested, the public school or public
16 school academy will grant that request. The school district or
17 public school academy shall provide this annual notice to parents
18 and legal guardians by sending a written notice to each pupil's
19 home or by including the notice in a newsletter, student handbook,
20 or similar communication that is sent to a pupil's home, and also
21 shall post the notice on the school district's or public school
22 academy's website.

23 (6) If a pupil receives special education services, the
24 pupil's individualized education program, in accordance with the
25 individuals with disabilities education act, title VI of Public Law
26 91-230, must identify the appropriate course or courses of study
27 and identify the supports, accommodations, and modifications
28 necessary to allow the pupil to progress in the curricular
29 requirements of this section and section 1278a, or in a personal

1 curriculum as provided under subsection (5), and meet the
2 requirements for a high school diploma.

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

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

1 1979, MCL 388.1606, for the pupil to be counted in membership in
2 another school district.

3 (9) If a pupil is not successfully completing a credit
4 required for graduation under this section and section 1278a ~~or~~
5 is identified as being at risk of withdrawing from high school,
6 then the pupil's school district or public school academy shall
7 notify the pupil's parent or legal guardian or, if the pupil is at
8 least age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the pupil, of the
9 availability of tutoring or other supplemental educational support
10 and counseling services that may be available to the pupil under
11 existing state or federal programs, such as those programs or
12 services available under section 31a of the state school aid act of
13 1979, MCL 388.1631a, or under the no child left behind act of 2001,
14 Public Law 107-110, or every student succeeds act, Public Law 114-
15 95.

16 (10) To the extent required by the no child left behind act of
17 2001, Public Law 107-110, or every student succeeds act, Public Law
18 114-95, the board of a school district or public school academy
19 shall ensure that all components of the curricular requirements
20 under this section and section 1278a are taught by highly qualified
21 teachers. If a school district or public school academy
22 demonstrates to the department that the school district or public
23 school academy is unable to meet the requirements of this section
24 because the school district or public school academy is unable to
25 hire enough highly qualified teachers, the department shall work
26 with the school district or public school academy to develop a plan
27 to allow the school district or public school academy to hire
28 enough highly qualified teachers to meet the requirements of this
29 section.

(11) The board of a school district or board of directors of a public school academy shall provide the opportunity for each pupil to develop an educational development plan during grade 7, and shall ensure that each pupil reviews ~~his or her~~ **the pupil's** educational development plan during grade 8 and revises it as appropriate before he or she begins high school. The board of a school district or board of directors of a public school academy shall also ensure that each pupil reviews and revises ~~his or her~~ **the pupil's** educational development plan as appropriate during each year of high school. An educational development plan must be developed, reviewed, and revised by the pupil under the supervision of the pupil's school counselor or another designee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233 or 1233a selected by the school principal and must be based on high school readiness scores and a career pathways program or similar career exploration program. An educational development plan must be designed to assist pupils to identify career development goals as they relate to academic requirements. During the process of developing and reviewing a pupil's educational development plan, the pupil must be advised that many of the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a may be fulfilled through career and technical education. In addition, during the process of developing and reviewing an educational development plan, the pupil must be provided with all of the following:

(a) Information on various types of careers and current and projected job openings in this state and those jobs' actual and projected wages.

(b) An opportunity to explore careers specific to a pupil's interests and identify career pathways and goals for achieving

1 success in those careers, including, but not limited to, the level
2 and type of educational preparation necessary to accomplish those
3 goals.

4 (c) An opportunity to develop a talent portfolio. A talent
5 portfolio must be developed and revised throughout the
6 implementation of a pupil's educational development plan. A talent
7 portfolio must include, but is not limited to, a record of the
8 pupil's experiences, proficiencies, certifications, or
9 accomplishments that demonstrate talents or marketable skills. The
10 department, in conjunction with the department of labor and
11 economic opportunity, shall develop and make available to the
12 public schools model information materials that districts or public
13 school academies may use to comply with this subdivision.

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
28 plan, the department shall work with the school district or public
29 school academy to develop a satisfactory plan that may be approved.

1 This subsection does not apply to a high school that is designated
2 as a specialty school under section 1278a(6) and that is exempt
3 under that section from the English language arts requirement under
4 subsection (1)(a) and the social science credit requirement under
5 section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

6 (13) This section and section 1278a do not prohibit a pupil
7 from satisfying or exceeding the credit requirements of the
8 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278a
9 through advanced studies such as accelerated course placement,
10 advanced placement, dual enrollment in a postsecondary institution,
11 or participation in the international baccalaureate program or an
12 early college/middle college program.

13 (14) Not later than April 1 of each year, the department shall
14 submit an annual report to the legislature that evaluates the
15 overall success of the curriculum required under this section and
16 section 1278a, the rigor and relevance of the course work required
17 by the curriculum, the ability of public schools to implement the
18 curriculum and the required course work, and the impact of the
19 curriculum on pupil success, and that details any activities the
20 department has undertaken to implement this section and section
21 1278a or to assist public schools in implementing the requirements
22 of this section and section 1278a.

23 **Sec. 1278e. (1) By not later than June 30, 2027, the**
24 **department shall develop or adopt, and provide to schools, model**
25 **programs of instruction for all courses described in section 1278a**
26 **and 1278b. The model programs of instruction must align with**
27 **subject area content expectations and guidelines developed by the**
28 **department and approved by the state board under section 1278b.**

29 (2) The board of a school district or intermediate school

1 district or board of directors of a public school academy is not
2 required to adopt or implement the model programs of instruction
3 developed or adopted by the department under subsection (1).