



Parent FAQ HB 5

Q: Will HB 5 affect my child?

A: Yes, beginning in 2014-2015, students will follow the Foundation HS program and be encouraged to select an endorsement for a total of 26 credits. Students will need to declare an Endorsement and together with the parents, a Personal Graduation Plan (PGP) should be reviewed and signed as soon as possible during the student's 9th grade year.

Q: How many credits will my student need to graduate?

A: 26 Credits with an Endorsement; 22 credits for Foundation High School Program

Q: What are Endorsements?

A: Endorsements consist of a sequence of courses offered by an ISD in five different fields of study. The five areas consist of the following: Multidisciplinary Studies, Public Services, Business & Industry, Arts & Humanities and STEM.

Q: What classes will my child need to take to earn an Endorsement?

A: It depends on the endorsement that your child selects and upon the curriculum that is offered at your child's school.

Q: Why did we move to House Bill 5?

A: It creates ONE diploma. It also gives students more flexibility and choice for students to pursue their interests in postsecondary education or the workforce and allows for students to develop their individual talents.

Q: Will this graduation program prepare my child for college?

There are opportunities for your child to earn various performance acknowledgements as well as graduate with a distinguished level of achievement. Graduating with this distinction will make the student eligible for the top 10% admission rule. In addition, school counselors

will meet with your child annually to discuss: the benefits of graduation with an endorsement, distinguished level of achievement and about the benefits of postsecondary education.

Q: What if my child changes her mind about his/her endorsement selection?

A: Once your child has declared an endorsement with her counselor and you have signed their personal graduation plan (PGP), if they decide to change endorsements, this must be communicated to their counselor who must then notify you in writing of the change that has been made. Changing endorsements will impact your child's program of study/course pathway and will be documented in their personal graduation plan (PGP). A PGP must be reviewed with the student on an annual basis.

Q: I have other children in upper grade levels, will they be allowed to select an endorsement?

A: Students who are not incoming freshman during the 2014-2015 academic school year must be given a choice to graduate under the Foundation, Minimum, Recommended or Distinguished Achievement Graduation Programs.