

Graduation Requirements

For the classes of 2011 and 2012

For the graduating classes of 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2012-2013, the required twenty-two (22) units, at a minimum, shall be taken from the "Smart Core" curriculum or from the "Core" curriculum. Only one (1) of the required units may be in a physical education course. All students will participate in the Smart Core curriculum unless the parent or guardian waives the student's right to participate. In such case of a waiver, the student will be required to participate in Core. The required twenty-two (22) units, at a minimum, are to be taken from the Smart Core or Core as follows:

SMART CORE - Sixteen (16) units

English - four (4) units - 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Mathematics - four (4) units

All students must take a mathematics course in grade 11 or grade 12 and complete Algebra II.

Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable.

Algebra I or Algebra A & B (Grades 7-8 or 8-9) Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable.

Geometry or Investigating Geometry or Geometry A & B (Grades 8-9 or 9-10)

Fourth math unit range of options: (choice of: Transitions to College

Math, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Trigonometry, Statistics, Computer Math, Algebra III, or an Advanced Placement math)

Natural Science - three (3) units with lab experience chosen from Physical Science, Biology or Applied Biology/Chemistry, Chemistry, Physics or Principles of Technology I & II or PIC Physics

Social Studies - three (3) units

Civics or Civics/American Government

World History

American History

Oral Communications - one half (1/2) unit

Physical Education - one half (1/2) unit

Health and Safety - one half (1/2) unit

Fine Arts - one half (1/2) unit

CAREER FOCUS - Six (6) units

All units in the career focus requirement shall be established through guidance and counseling at the local school district based on the students' contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to local district policy and reflect state frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

CORE - Sixteen (16) units

English - four (4) units

Oral Communications - one half (1/2) unit

Social Studies - three (3) units; one (1) unit of world history, one (1) unit of U. S. history, one half (1/2) unit of civics or government

Mathematics - four (4) units; one (1) unit of algebra or its equivalent* and one (1) unit of geometry or its equivalent.*

All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills. Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable.

Science - three (3) units [at least one (1) unit of biology or its equivalent and one (1) unit of a physical science]

Physical Education - one half (1/2) unit

Health and Safety - one half (1/2) unit

Fine Arts - one half (1/2) unit

* A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four (4) unit requirement.

CAREER FOCUS - Six (6) units

All units in the career focus requirement shall be established through guidance and counseling at the local school district based on the students' contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to local district policy and reflect state frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

Additionally, Cross County School District requires one additional credit to graduate from high school for a total of twenty-three credits.

Class of 2013-2014 and subsequent years

For the graduating classes of 2013-2014 all graduating classes thereafter, the required twenty-two (22) units, at a minimum, shall be taken from the "Smart Core" curriculum or from the "Core" curriculum. Only one (1) of the required units may be in a physical education course. All students will participate in the Smart Core curriculum unless the parent or guardian waives the student's right to participate. In such case of a waiver, the student will be required to participate in Core. The required twenty-two (22) units, at a minimum, are to be taken from the Smart Core or Core as follows:

SMART CORE - Sixteen (16) units

English - four (4) units - 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Mathematics - four (4) units

All students must take a mathematics course in grade 11 or grade 12 and complete Algebra II.

Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable.

Algebra I or Algebra A & B (Grades 7-8 or 8-9) Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable.

Geometry or Investigating Geometry or Geometry A & B (Grades 8-9 or 9-10)

Algebra II

Fourth math unit range of options: (choice of: Transitions to College

Math, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Trigonometry, Statistics, Computer Math, Algebra III, or an Advanced Placement math)

Natural Science - three (3) units with lab experience chosen from Physical Science, Biology or Applied Biology/Chemistry, Chemistry, Physics or Principles of Technology I & II or PIC Physics

Social Studies - three (3) units one (1) unit of world history, one (1) unit of U. S. history, one half (1/2) unit of civics

Oral Communications - one half (1/2) unit

Physical Education - one half (1/2) unit

Health and Safety - one half (1/2) unit

Economics - one half (1/2) unit

A one-half (1/2) unit of Economics is required for graduation and may be counted toward the required three (3) social studies credits or toward the six (6) required career focus elective credits. If the course is taught by an appropriately licensed social studies teacher, credit may be applied to meet graduation requirements in social studies or toward the career focus electives. If the course is taught by an appropriately licensed business education teacher, graduation credit can only be applied toward career focus requirements. The appropriate course code must be used to differentiate the application of credit for graduation to either the area of social studies or the area of career focus elective credit.

Fine Arts - one half (1/2) unit

CAREER FOCUS - Six (6) units

All units in the career focus requirement shall be established through guidance and counseling at the local school district based on the students' contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to local district policy and reflect state frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

CORE - Sixteen (16) units

English - four (4) units

Oral Communications - one half (1/2) unit

Social Studies - three (3) units; one (1) unit of world history, one (1) unit of U. S. history, one half (1/2) unit of civics

Mathematics - four (4) units; one (1) unit of algebra or its equivalent* and one (1) unit of geometry or its equivalent.*

All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills. Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable.

Science - three (3) units [at least one (1) unit of biology or its equivalent and one (1) unit of a physical science]

Physical Education - one half (1/2) unit

Health and Safety - one half (1/2) unit

Economics - one half (1/2) unit

A one-half (1/2) unit of Economics is required for graduation and may be counted toward the required three (3) social studies credits or toward the six (6) required career focus elective credits. If the course is taught by an appropriately licensed social studies teacher, credit may be applied to meet graduation requirements in social studies or toward the career focus electives. If the course is taught by an appropriately licensed business education teacher, graduation credit can only be applied toward career focus requirements. The appropriate course code must be used to differentiate the application of credit for graduation to either the area of social studies or the area of career focus elective credit.

Fine Arts - one half (1/2) unit

* A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four

(4) unit requirement.

CAREER FOCUS - Six (6) units

All units in the career focus requirement shall be established through guidance and counseling at the local school district based on the students' contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to local district policy and reflect state frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

Additionally, Cross County School District requires one additional credit to graduate from high school for a total of twenty-three credits.

Honor Graduates

Students who wish to graduate with honors or who wish to be class valedictorian or salutatorian must have successfully completed the minimum core of courses recommended for preparation for college as defined by the State Board of Higher Education, the State Board of Education and the Cross County School District Board of Education. All honor graduates must complete the following beyond the minimum:

23 units of credit

Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.35

Two credits of the same foreign language

Four credits of mathematics: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and a choice of Trig/Pre-Calculus, Transitions to College Math, or an Advanced Placement mathematics. (A comparable concurrent credit course may be substituted upon prior approval by the principal.)

Four credits of Science-Physical Science, biology, Chemistry, Physics, or AP Biology

For the class of 2011 a student must take at least one Advanced Placement courses, International Baccalaureate courses or honors courses approved for weighted credit by the Arkansas Department of Education. For the class of 2012 a student must take at least two Advanced Placement courses, International Baccalaureate courses or honors courses approved for weighted credit by the Arkansas Department of Education. For the class of 2013 and subsequent years a student must take at least three Advanced Placement courses, International Baccalaureate courses or honors courses approved for weighted credit by the Arkansas Department of Education.

Valedictorian and salutatorian

In order to be honored with the designation of Valedictorian or salutatorian, a student must meet the requirements for Honor Graduates, and also complete the final three semesters, in their entirety, at Cross County High School.

The Honor Graduate with the highest GPA will become valedictorian and the next highest GPA will be salutatorian. GPA calculations will include eight semesters beginning with grade 9, first semester, and ending with Grade 12, second semester. GPA calculations will be carried to the fourth decimal place.

Should two or students still be tied, the administration will compare the four nine weeks of the senior year's numerical grades