



Boulder Valley School District
Excellence and Equity

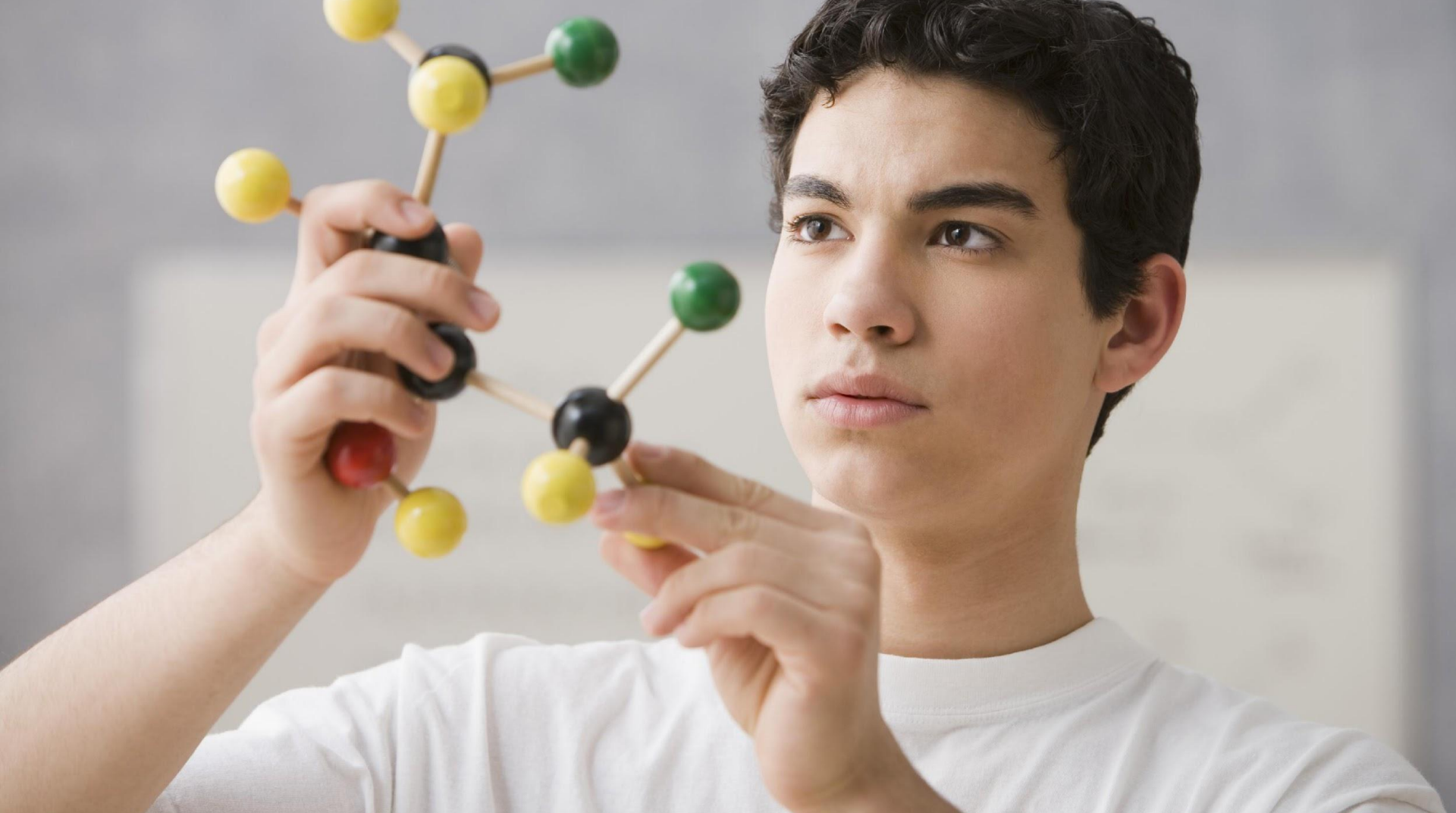
Graduation 2021

Community Feedback, Fall 2016



Graduation 2021: Agenda

- BVSD Mission, Vision, Values, and Goals
- Graduation 2021 Update
- How did we get here?
- Current Graduation Guidelines
- Menu of Options
- Committee Updates
- Considerations from Committees
- Clarifications and Questions



Our Mission

Our Mission

The mission of the Boulder Valley School District is to create challenging, meaningful and engaging learning opportunities so that all children thrive and are prepared for successful, civically engaged lives.



Our Vision

Our Vision

We develop our children's greatest abilities and make possible the discovery and pursuit of their dreams which, when fulfilled, will benefit us all. We provide a comprehensive and innovative approach to education and graduate successful, curious, lifelong learners who confidently confront the great challenges of their time.



Our Values

Our Values

1. We respect the inherent value of each student and incorporate the strengths and diversity of students, families, staff & communities.
2. Societal inequities & unique learning needs will not be barriers to student success.
3. We address the intellectual growth, health & physical development, and social emotional well-being of students.
4. We value accountability & transparency at all levels.



Our Goals

Our Goals

GOAL #1: Boulder Valley School District will partner with students, families, staff, and community members to address the unique learning needs of each student and to create meaningful and engaging opportunities for each child.

GOAL #2: Boulder Valley School District will ensure that each student meets or exceeds appropriate expectations relative to intellectual growth, physical development and social emotional well-being.

GOAL #3: Boulder Valley School District will ensure that students, families, staff, and community members experience a safe, healthy and inclusive environment.

WHY adjust graduation requirements?

- By 2020, three out of every four jobs will require education beyond high school
- The State of Colorado recently adopted:
 - new academic *standards* which provide clear, high expectations for what students should know and be able to do at every grade level, and
 - new graduation requirements for the class of 2021

The Primary Change

- New graduation requirements require students to demonstrate proficiency in English and math, subjects that reflect Colorado standards and 21st century skills
- Local Board/District graduation requirements may include additional elements, but must contain demonstration in English and math



DRAFT JULY 2015

CDE Timeline



BVSD Timeline for Adoption

- March & April 2016
 - Community & school information sessions #1
- June 2016
 - Community comments reviewed and shared with Board of Education
- **August 2016*****
 - Community & school information sessions #2
- September 2016
 - Board of Education and DAC presentations; Pathways Subcommittee forms
- October 2016
 - Student Advisory committee, middle and high, will provide feedback
 - DAC follow up
- November 2016
 - Present recommendations to Board of Education
- December 2016
 - Board of Education final approval



**Success Effect
Steering Committee**

**Successful, Curious, Lifelong
Learners Priority Action Team**

August 2015

**Graduation Guidelines
Committee**

November 2015

**Testing
Subcommittee**

January 2016

**Capstone
Subcommittee**

January 2016

**Pathways
Subcommittee**

September 2016



Current Graduation Requirements

BVSD currently requires students to acquire **220 credits to graduate** from a Boulder Valley high school.

These include:

40 in Language Arts

20 in Mathematics

20 in Physical Ed/Health

5 Practical

Money Management Course

30 in Social Studies

20 in Science

10 World Languages

5 Fine Arts

70 Electives

CDE Menu of Options

- Options provided to districts include:
 - Testing Options
 - A District Capstone
 - Industry Certificates
 - Concurrent Enrollment
- The full Menu of Options can be found at cde.state.co.us and each district may adopt one, some, or all of the available options
- Districts can accommodate for specific students who will still earn a standard high school diploma
 - English learners
 - Gifted students
 - Students with disabilities



Testing Options: Career Readiness



The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)

- A comprehensive test that helps determine students' eligibility and suitability for careers in the military.

ACT WorkKeys

- An assessment of students' job skills in applied reading, writing, mathematics and 21st century skills. Scores are based on job profiles that help employers select, hire, train, develop and retain a high-performance workforce.

Testing Options: Curricular Connections

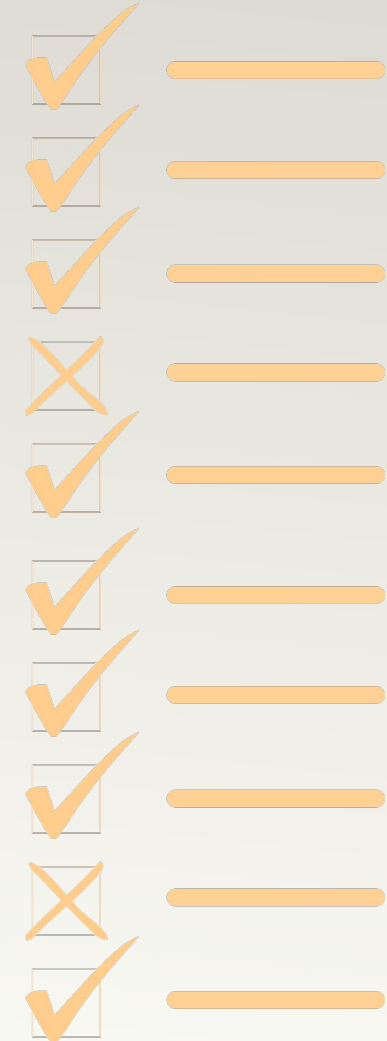
*These tests are generally taken spring of the senior year, scores are received in June, after graduation which make them **problematic** as a graduation tool.*

Advanced Placement (AP)

- AP exams test students' ability to perform at a college level
- AP exam performance can earn college credit
- Associated with AP curriculum offered at most BVSD high schools

International Baccalaureate (IB)

- IB exams assess students enrolled in the official IB Diploma Programme
- IB exam performance can earn college credit
- Associated with IB curriculum offered at Fairview and Centaurus High Schools



Testing Options: Standardized Exams



ACT

- The nationally administered, standardized paper-and-pencil test that helps colleges evaluate candidates. The ACT was Colorado’s standardized assessment until January 2016.

SAT

- SAT is a nationally administered, standardized paper-and-pencil test that helps colleges evaluate candidates. The SAT was endorsed as the state assessment by CDE in January 2016.

Testing Options: Eliminated by BVSD



Accuplacer

- Most commonly used by Community Colleges to determine placement in courses. In Colorado, exam will be discontinued in September 2016. It is not yet clear if CDE will allow the replacement exam Community College Placement Test (CCPT) will be added as an option. We are not currently investing time in this option.

ACT Compass

- ACT will no longer be providing this exam as of November 2016. They report they do not plan to provide another version. BVSD is not considering this exam.

Testing Options: Preliminary Recommendation



SAT be used as the primary testing option

- Aligns with current testing requirements
- Will continue to be provided free to all BVSD students during the spring of junior year
- This provides time to adjust the demonstration avenue prior to graduation as needed
 - re-take exam
 - take another exam
 - pursue other demonstration options

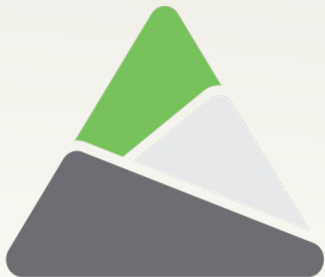
Accept ASVAB, ACT Works, ACT, IB or AP tests

- Test fees paid for at the family's expense
- Results presented to BVSD would be accepted

Capstone: Experiment, Research, or Event



- Opportunity for life experience-based education and demonstration of skill mastery
 - Creative and personally meaningful avenue to pursue education and skill mastery
- Currently offered at some BVSD high schools.
 - Would be an expanded option for all district schools to uniformly implement
 - Required class during junior and/or senior year
- Alternative to testing-based demonstration of skill mastery



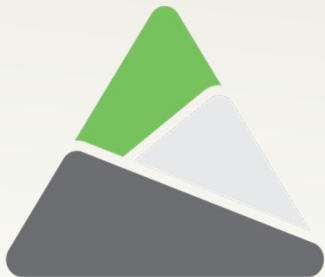
Capstone: Portfolio Defense, Service Learning



- Opportunity for life experience-based education and demonstration of skill mastery
 - Creative and personally meaningful avenue to pursue education



- Currently offered at some BVSD high schools
 - Would be an expanded option for all district schools to uniformly implement
 - End of junior year review, provides time for revisions



- Alternative to testing-based demonstration of skill mastery

Capstone Options: Preliminary Recommendation



- Offer capstone options at all BVSD high schools
 - Aligns with current practice within BVSD



- Portfolio of course selection and performance
 - Aligns with current practice of high school counselors
 - Consider including elements of the Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP)
 - Consider portfolio for math and science only
 - Consider requiring for all 10th and 11th grade students





Graduation 2021: Feedback

- Do you need clarifications on information contained in the presentation? **Please ask!**
- Please record any lingering questions on the provided card and give it to a presenter
 - Answers will be provided soon on the Success Effect website

bvdsucesseffect.org/priorities/graduation-guidelines

