



SECTION: 512  
TITLE: HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

# NESHAMINY SCHOOL DISTRICT

1	<b>I. INTENT OF</b>	There are several ways in which a student may receive a diploma. The	1
2	<b>POLICY</b>	student must fulfill certain obligations both in time and study. These	2
3		requirements outlined in this policy are considered minimal. Usually, these	3
4		are met over a normal four-year period. A student is required to elect a	4
5		minimum of five major subjects each year. A major subject meets a minimum	5
6		of four periods each week.	6
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8	<b>II. MINIMUM</b>	The minimum required credits and subjects are as follows:	8
9	<b>REQUIREMENTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 21 credits</li></ul>	9
10	<b>FOR</b>	Subjects required for graduation include:	10
11	<b>GRADUATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 4 credits of English</li></ul>	11
12		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 4 credits of social studies (1 credit will count toward meeting one of two</li></ul>	12
13		units of credit required in arts and humanities, or both)	13
14		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 3 credits of mathematics</li></ul>	14
15		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 3 credits of science</li></ul>	15
16		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• .5 credit of health</li></ul>	16
17		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1.5 credits of physical education.</li></ul>	17
18		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 credit of arts and humanities</li></ul>	18
19		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 4 credits selected from among those approved for credit toward</li></ul>	19
20		graduation by the school District including approved vocational education	20
21		courses	21
22		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students must complete all requirements for graduation as outlined in</li></ul>	22
23		Chapter 4 of the State Board of Education regulations. Requirements shall	23
24		include successful course completion and passing grades; achieving a	24
25		proficient level in state or local assessments; or demonstration of	25
26		Achievement of academic standards as established by the Neshaminy	26
27		School District.*	27
28		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vocational/Technical students are expected to meet the graduation</li></ul>	28
29		requirements as outlined in Chapter 4 of the State Board of Education	29
30		regulations. Planned courses shall be used to deliver these programs.	30
31		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provisions for planning, organizing, and operating vocational education</li></ul>	31
32		regulations. Planned courses shall be used to deliver these programs.	32
33		programs are stated in Chapter 4 of the State Board of Education	33
34		regulations.	34
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36	<b>III. REQUIREMENTS FOR</b>	Students may participate in the graduation ceremony when they have earned	36
37		twenty-one credits required for graduation; successful course completion and	37
38		passing grades; successful completion of culminating project; achieving a	38
39		proficient level in state or local assessments; and successful demonstration	39
40		of academic standards as established by the Neshaminy School District.	40
41		Exceptions may be made by the high school principal with the approval of the	41
42		Superintendent or his/her designee.	42
43			43
44		A student whose deficiency prevents participation in the graduation ceremony	44
45		may earn the required credit(s) and other aforementioned requirements	45
46	in the manner prescribed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education	46	
47	with prior approval of the school principal. After all graduation	47	
48	requirements are met, this student may participate in the next graduation	48	
49	ceremony conducted.	49	
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51	<b>IV. EXCEPTIONS FOR COMPLETION</b>	<u>Acceleration</u> – if a student attains a minimum of 19 required credits by June	51
52		of his/her junior year, he/she shall be eligible to receive his/her diploma	52
53		upon satisfactory completion of the required additional two credits during	53
54		the summer school following his/her junior year, which also includes	54
55		successful course completion and passing grades; successful completion of a	55
56		culminating project; achieving a proficient level in state or local	56
57		assessments and successful demonstration of academic standards as	57
58		established by the Neshaminy School District. The diploma will be awarded	58
59		the following June.	59
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61		<u>Acceptance of college in lieu of senior year</u> – an eleventh grade student who	61
62		is accepted to an institution of higher learning will be eligible to receive a	62
63		Neshaminy diploma provided that he/she presents his/her plan in writing	63
64		for approval and presents a transcript proving satisfactory completion of one	64
65		year of higher learning, which also includes successful course completion and	65
66		passing grades; successful completion of a culminating project; achieving a	66
67		proficient level in state or local assessments; and successful	67
68		demonstration of academic standards as established by the Neshaminy School	68
69	District. If the student fails to complete his/her full year of college, he/ she	69	
70	may obtain his/her diploma through standard evening schools, summer	70	
71	schools, regular school attendance, additional college work, or successfully	71	
72	passing an examination which assesses mastery of a planned course as	72	
73	provided by the principal and teachers of the course. Upon certification of the	73	
74	completed work, which also includes successful course completion and	74	
75	passing grades; successful completion of a culminating project; achieving a	75	
76	proficient level in state or local assessments; and successful	76	
77	demonstration of academic standards, as established by the Neshaminy	77	
78	School District the principal shall award a Neshaminy diploma.	78	
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84	<b>V. TRANSCRIPT</b>	The official transcript of each student transferring into the Neshaminy	84
85		secondary school will be evaluated for credit and partial fulfillment of	85
86		requirements. This shall be handled by the student's guidance counselor.	86
87		Any questions of doubt or dispute shall be brought to the attention of the	87
88		principal, whose decision shall be final.	88
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91		*Achieving a proficient level in math, reading and biology on the Keystone	91
92		Exams or demonstration of achievement of academic standards as	92
93		established by the Neshaminy School District.	93
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95	Approved: 2/22/72		95
96	Revised: 5/25/75		96
97	(becomes effective with		97
98	the Class of 1979)		98
99	Revised: 10/25/77		99
100	Revised: 3/27/84		100
101	Revised: 5/22/90		101
102	(becomes effective with		102
103	the Class of 1991)		103
104	Revised: 2/24/98		104
105	Revised 2/27/01		105
106	Revised 3/26/02		106
107	Revised: 5/22/02		107
108	Revised/App: 1/2012		108
109	Revised/App: 11/2012		109
110	Revised/App: 5/20/2015		110
111	Revised/App: 11/2016		111
112	Approved 12/5/2016		112
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