

**ACTION MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** Board of Education

**FROM:** Anthony Jones, Director of Research, Evaluation, Assessment and Accountability

**SUBJECT:** Reduction in Number of Credits Needed for HS Graduation

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**Summary**

It is recommended the Bibb County Board of Education reduce the number of credits necessary for high school graduation from 24 credits to 23 credits, starting with the graduating class of May 2021.

**Background**

Starting with the 2013-2014 school year, BCSD decreased the minimum required number of credits for a student to be considered a high school graduate, from 28 credits to 24 credits. This decrease was a result of high schools moving from Block Schedule to a 7-Period Day Schedule. This rule change was a factor in the BCSD's 4-year graduation rate moving from 58.9% in 2013-2014 to the present 79.37%. Currently, Bibb County Schools require 24 credits to graduate.

State Rule 160-4-2-.48 requires a student to complete a minimum of 23 credits. Students are required to earn 4 credits in ELA; 4 credits in Math; 4 credits in Science; 3 credits in Social Studies; 3 credits in CTAE/Modern Language/and/or Fine Arts; 1 credits in Health and Physical Education; and 4 credits in Electives to be considered a high school graduate.

**Points to Consider:**

Reducing the number of credits necessary for high school graduation from 24 credits to 23 credits aligns district policy with state rules.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Education reduce the number of credits necessary for high school graduation from 24 credits to 23 credits, starting with the graduating class of May 2021.

**Superintendent's Comments and Approval**

| <b><u>Superintendent's Comments</u></b> |          |
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| Dr. Curtis L. Jones, Jr.                | Approved |