

Stanwood Camano School District #401

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INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

Lloy Schaaf

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

Memorandum

To: The Stanwood-Camano School Board of Directors

Fr: Lloy Schaaf, Ed.D



Re: Approval of awarding credit for passing the Smarter Balanced Assessment in English Language Arts, Math, and Washington Comprehensive Science Assessment

Date: February 18, 2020

Attached, please find the proposal related to assigning competency credit based on passing state exams.

Recommendation: That the Stanwood-Camano Board of Directors approve the Credit for State Assessment Competency

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Date: January 29, 2020

To: SCSD School Board

From: Ryan Ovenell, Principal
Christine Del Pozo, Principal

RE: Credit for State Assessment Competency

Stanwood High School and Lincoln Hill High School are requesting that the Stanwood Camano School District Board of Directors approve the awarding credit for passing the Smarter Balanced Assessment in English Language Arts or the Smarter Balanced Assessment in Math or the Washington Comprehensive Science Assessment for students who have previously failed a corresponding course . Washington Administrative Codes (WAC) 392-410-340 and 180-51-003 allow districts to award credit based on competency testing in lieu of minimum number of hours of instruction. Attached to this memo are copies of the relevant WACs relating to awarding credit for passing state exams.

The following chart outlines the proposal for competency-based credit for passing state exams:

Test	Previously Failed Course Eligible for Retrieval	Amount of Credit Retrieved
English Language Arts Smarter Balanced Assessment	English 9, 10, 11 or 12	.5
Math Smarter Balanced Assessment	Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II or Personal Finance	.5
Washington Comprehensive Science Assessment	Science Explorations Honors Geology/Astronomy Biology, Chemistry, Physics Forensics	.5

Awarding students credit for the state exam not only provides these students with credit, but renewed hope that they can complete the 24 credits needed for graduation. It legitimizes the state exams, motivating students to put forth increased effort during the testing, and emphasizes the importance of learning the content of their classes. For some high school students, the reasons for failing a class have very little to do with their ability to learn, but rather their inability to complete course work due to obstacles outside their control.

Stanwood High School and Lincoln Hill High School are focused on increasing graduation rates and decreasing dropout rates. More importantly, we want to give our students hope that they can complete their high school education.

The practice of awarding competency based credit for passing standardized state assessments is not new to the Stanwood Camano School District. Lincoln Hill High School has implemented this policy since 2013. The request is to expand this manner of competency based crediting to all high school students in our district.



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PDF **WAC 392-410-340**

Equivalency credit for alternative learning experiences, nonhigh school courses, electronically mediated courses, work experience, and challenges.

The board of directors of a district offering a high school diploma shall adopt written policies providing for the granting of high school graduation credit for alternative learning experiences, nonhigh school courses, work experience, and challenges. High school credits may be given for, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) Planned learning experiences conducted away from the school under the supervision or with the approval of the school and linked to one or more of the state learning goals and related essential academic learning requirements;
- (2) Work experience on the basis that four hundred five hours of work experience equals one credit;
- (3) National Guard high school career training and National Guard youth challenge;
- (4) Postsecondary courses in accredited colleges and universities. In the case of courses taken under the statutory running start option under RCW 28A.600.300 through 28A.600.400, the district shall award high school credit pursuant to RCW 28A.230.090(6);
- (5) Courses in accredited or approved technical colleges;
- (6) Correspondence courses from accredited colleges and universities or schools approved by the National University Education Association or the Distance Education and Training Council;
- (7) Electronically mediated courses meeting standards which shall be adopted by written policy by the school district, or standards adopted by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, or the Distance Education and Training Council, or the Commission for International and Trans-regional Accreditation;
- (8) Other courses offered by any school or institution if specifically approved for credit by the district; and
- (9) Credit based on competency testing, in lieu of enrollment or taking specific courses, may be granted by the district.

[Statutory Authority: 2006 c 263. WSR 06-14-009, recodified as § 392-410-340, filed 6/22/06, effective 6/22/06. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.230.090. WSR 05-23-058, § 180-51-110, filed 11/10/05, effective 12/11/05; WSR 00-19-108, § 180-51-110, filed 9/20/00, effective 10/21/00. Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.05.060. WSR 85-12-041 (Order 12-85), § 180-51-110, filed 6/5/85. Statutory Authority: Chapter 28A.05 RCW. WSR 84-11-049 (Order 7-84), § 180-51-110, filed 5/17/84.]