

Framework for Ad Hoc Committee

Assumptions Regarding Secondary School Redesign

1. A Connecticut high school diploma will be based upon successful completion of required courses of study using model curricula and benchmark assessments developed by the SDE.
2. Benchmark assessments will consist of two types:
 - End-of-year course examinations
 - Performance assessments demonstrating 21st competencies
3. A Connecticut diploma will require the demonstration of core and specialized competencies that map onto a set of post-secondary options or career paths.
4. Required courses are year-long, will have credits affixed to them, and will be graded; elective or pathway courses may be semester-long.
5. A minimum number of credits will be required to graduate, in addition to completing required courses, passing end-of-year exams and performance assessments. Letter grades will not be abandoned.
6. Secondary course sequence begins at Grade 8 and ends at Grade 13, allowing students six years to complete their diploma requirements.
7. Future uses of the CAPT examinations after 2012 is uncertain.

Conceptual Framework

Required Courses, End of Year Examinations, and Performance Assessments

Subject Area	Required Courses	Required End-of-Course Exam	Optional Courses Predicated on Pathway Selected	Performance Assessment Demonstrating 21 st Century Skills
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alg. 1 • Geometry • Alg. 2 or • Statistics 	x x x	See Example Below	See Example Below
Science Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physics • Biology • Chemistry or • Earth Science 	x x	See Example Below	See Example Below
ELA/Rdg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genre Study • British Lit. • Amer. Lit • World Lit 	x x x x	See Example Below	See Example Below
History/SS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amer. History • World History 	x x	See Example Below	See Example Below
W. Lang.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACTEL Proficiency 	x	See Example Below	See Example Below
Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art History or • Music Appreciation 	x	See Example Below	See Example Below

Core Curriculum Required of All Students

- Mathematics: Algebra 1 and Geometry
- Science: Physics, Biology
- History and Social Science: American History: Settlement to the Civil War; American History from Civil War to September 11, 2001
- Literature: Reading and Writing About Literature; Reading and Writing about History and Political Science
- Humanities: Art Appreciation, Music Appreciation, Portfolio or Demonstration
- World Language: Intermediate Proficiency in speaking and writing a World Language

Pathways Leading to Post-Secondary Education or Career Option

Path 1 Math/Science/Engineering

- Algebra II, Calculus A or B
- Chemistry, Biochemistry, AP Biology or Physics
- Computer Programming
- Senior Research Project

Path 2 Humanities

- Literature: Epic and Lyric Poetry, the Plays of Shakespeare, the Novel
- Humanities: Art History, Music History,
- Portfolio Application: Studio Art, Dance, Theatre, or Creative Writing
- Senior Project

ETC.

See Career Paths Template