

# HOUSE BILL NO. 5735

May 21, 2024, Introduced by Reps. Glanville, Tyrone Carter, Hoskins, Fitzgerald, Grant, MacDonell, Martus, Wegela, McFall, Coffia, Hill, Hope, Byrnes, Dievendorf, Neeley, O'Neal, Young, Farhat, Haadsma, Conlin, Arbit, Rheingans, Xiong, Koleszar, Steckloff, Price and Brabec and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled  
"The revised school code,"  
by amending sections 1278a and 1278b (MCL 380.1278a and 380.1278b),  
as amended by 2022 PA 105.

## **THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

- 1           Sec. 1278a. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section  
2 or section 1278b, the board of a school district or board of  
3 directors of a public school academy shall not award a high school  
4 diploma to a pupil unless the pupil meets all of the following:  
5           (a) Has successfully completed all of the following credit

1 requirements of the Michigan merit standard before graduating from  
2 high school:

3 (i) At least 4 credits in mathematics, **including 3 credits** that  
4 are aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the  
5 department and approved by the state board under section 1278b,  
6 ~~including completion of at least algebra I, geometry, and algebra~~  
7 ~~II, or an integrated sequence of this course content that consists~~  
8 ~~of 3 credits, and an additional mathematics credit, such as~~  
9 ~~trigonometry, statistics, precalculus, calculus, applied math,~~  
10 ~~accounting, business math, a retake of algebra II, or, for only~~  
11 ~~pupils entering grade 8 before 2023, a course in financial literacy~~  
12 ~~as described in section 1165. A pupil may complete algebra II over~~  
13 ~~2 years with 2 credits awarded or over 1.5 years with 1.5 credits~~  
14 ~~awarded for the purposes of this section and section 1278b. A pupil~~  
15 ~~also may partially or fully fulfill the algebra II requirement by~~  
16 ~~completing a department-approved formal career and technical~~  
17 ~~education program or curriculum, such as a program or curriculum in~~  
18 ~~electronics, machining, construction, welding, engineering,~~  
19 ~~computer science, or renewable energy, and in that program or~~  
20 ~~curriculum successfully completing the same content as the algebra~~  
21 ~~II benchmarks assessed on the department prescribed state high~~  
22 ~~school assessment, as determined by the department. The department~~  
23 ~~shall post on its website guidelines for implementation of the~~  
24 ~~immediately preceding sentence. **determined by the board of the**~~  
25 **school district or board of directors of the public school academy.**  
26 Each pupil must successfully complete at least 1 mathematics course  
27 during ~~his or her~~ **the pupil's** final year of high school enrollment.  
28 This subparagraph does not require completion of mathematics  
29 courses in any particular sequence.

1           (ii) At least 3 credits in social science that are aligned with  
2 subject area content expectations developed by the department and  
3 approved by the state board under section 1278b, including  
4 completion of at least ~~1 credit in United States history and~~  
5 ~~geography, 1 credit in world history and geography, 1/2 credit in~~  
6 ~~economics, and the civics course described in section 1166(2). For~~  
7 ~~only pupils entering grade 8 before 2023, the 1/2-credit economics~~  
8 ~~requirement may be satisfied by completion of at least a 1/2-credit~~  
9 ~~course in personal economics that includes a financial literacy~~  
10 ~~component as described in section 1165, if that course covers the~~  
11 ~~subject area content expectations for economics developed by the~~  
12 ~~department and approved by the state board under section 1278b. The~~  
13 ~~1/2 credit in economics required under this subparagraph cannot be~~  
14 ~~fulfilled by completion of the 1/2 credit course in personal~~  
15 ~~finance described in subsection (3).~~

16           (iii) At least 1 credit in subject matter that includes both  
17 health and physical education aligned with guidelines developed by  
18 the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b,  
19 or at least 1/2 credit in health aligned with guidelines developed  
20 by the department and approved by the state board under section  
21 1278b and at least 1/2 credit awarded by the school district or  
22 public school academy for approved participation in extracurricular  
23 athletics or other extracurricular activities involving physical  
24 activity.

25           (iv) At least 1 credit in visual arts, performing arts, or  
26 applied arts, as defined by the department, that is aligned with  
27 guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state  
28 board under section 1278b. A school district or public school  
29 academy is strongly encouraged to offer visual arts and performing

1 arts courses.

2 (v) The credit requirements specified in section 1278b(1).

3 (b) Meets the online course or learning experience requirement  
4 of this subsection. A school district or public school academy  
5 shall provide the basic level of technology and internet access  
6 required by the state board to complete the online course or  
7 learning experience. For a pupil to meet this requirement, the  
8 pupil must meet either of the following, as determined by the  
9 school district or public school academy:

10 (i) Has successfully completed at least 1 course or learning  
11 experience that is presented online, as defined by the department.

12 (ii) The pupil's school district or public school academy has  
13 integrated an online experience throughout the high school  
14 curriculum by ensuring that each teacher of each course that  
15 provides the required credits of the Michigan merit curriculum has  
16 integrated an online experience into the course.

17 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, and in  
18 addition to the requirements under subsection (1), the board of a  
19 school district or board of directors of a public school academy  
20 shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil  
21 has successfully completed during grades K to 12 at least 2 credits  
22 that are grade-appropriate in a language other than English or  
23 course work or other learning experiences that are substantially  
24 equivalent to 2 credits in a language other than English, based on  
25 guidelines developed by the department. A pupil may partially or  
26 fully fulfill 1 credit of this requirement by completing a  
27 department-approved formal career and technical education program  
28 or curriculum or by completing visual or performing arts  
29 instruction that is in addition to the requirements under

1 subsection (1) (a) (iv). The board of a school district or board of  
2 directors of a public school academy is strongly encouraged to  
3 ensure that all pupils complete at least 1 credit in a language  
4 other than English in grades K to 6. For the purposes of this  
5 subsection, both of the following apply:

6 (a) American Sign Language is considered to be a language  
7 other than English.

8 (b) The pupil may meet all or part of this requirement with  
9 online course work.

10 (3) Beginning with pupils entering grade 8 in 2023, the board  
11 of a school district or board of directors of a public school  
12 academy shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the  
13 pupil completes a 1/2 credit course in personal finance that aligns  
14 with subject area content expectations developed by the department  
15 and approved by the state board under section 1278b. The 1/2 credit  
16 course in personal finance must fulfill 1/2 credit of mathematics  
17 required under subsection (1) (a) (i), 1/2 credit of visual arts,  
18 performing arts, or applied arts required under subsection  
19 (1) (a) (iv), or 1/2 credit of a language other than English required  
20 under subsection (2), as determined by the board of the school  
21 district or board of directors of the public school academy in  
22 which the pupil is enrolled. The 1/2 credit course in personal  
23 finance required under this subsection may be fulfilled through a  
24 department-approved formal career and technical education program  
25 or curriculum that aligns with the subject area content  
26 expectations developed by the department and approved by the state  
27 board for the credit under section 1278b.

28 (4) The requirements under this section and section 1278b for  
29 a high school diploma are in addition to any local requirements

1 imposed by the board of a school district or board of directors of  
2 a public school academy. The board of a school district or board of  
3 directors of a public school academy, as a local requirement for a  
4 high school diploma, may require a pupil to complete the Michigan  
5 merit examination under section 1279g or may require a pupil to  
6 participate in the MIAccess assessments if appropriate for the  
7 pupil.

8 (5) For the purposes of this section and section 1278b, all of  
9 the following apply:

10 (a) A pupil is considered to have completed a credit if the  
11 pupil successfully completes the subject area content expectations  
12 or guidelines developed by the department that apply to the credit.  
13 For a career and technical education credit, a school district or  
14 public school academy may supplement those content expectations and  
15 guidelines with additional guidelines developed by the school  
16 district or public school academy.

17 (b) A school district or public school academy shall base its  
18 determination of whether a pupil has successfully completed the  
19 subject area content expectations or guidelines developed by the  
20 department that apply to a credit at least in part on the pupil's  
21 performance on assessments developed or selected by the department  
22 or on 1 or more assessments developed or selected by the school  
23 district or public school academy that measure a pupil's  
24 understanding of the subject area content expectations or  
25 guidelines that apply to the credit.

26 (c) A school district or public school academy shall also  
27 grant a pupil a credit if the pupil earns a qualifying score, as  
28 determined by the department, on assessments developed or selected  
29 for the subject area by the department or the pupil earns a

1 qualifying score, as determined by the school district or public  
2 school academy, on 1 or more assessments developed or selected by  
3 the school district or public school academy that measure a pupil's  
4 understanding of the subject area content expectations or  
5 guidelines that apply to the credit.

6 (6) If a high school is designated by the superintendent of  
7 public instruction as a specialty school and the high school meets  
8 the requirements of subsection (7), the pupils of the high school  
9 are not required to successfully complete the 4 credits in English  
10 language arts required under section 1278b(1)(a) or the 3 credits  
11 in social science required under subsection (1)(a)(ii) and the  
12 school district or public school academy is not required to ensure  
13 that each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for meeting  
14 those English language arts or social science credit requirements.  
15 The superintendent of public instruction may designate up to 15  
16 high schools that meet the requirements of this subsection as  
17 specialty schools. Subject to this maximum number, the  
18 superintendent of public instruction shall designate a high school  
19 as a specialty school if the superintendent of public instruction  
20 finds that the high school meets all of the following criteria:

21 (a) The high school incorporates a significant reading and  
22 writing component throughout its curriculum.

23 (b) The high school uses a specialized, innovative, and  
24 rigorous curriculum in such areas as performing arts, foreign  
25 language, extensive use of internships, or other learning  
26 innovations that conform to pioneering innovations among other  
27 leading national or international high schools.

28 (7) A high school that is designated by the superintendent of  
29 public instruction as a specialty school under subsection (6) is

1 only exempt from requirements as described under subsection (6) as  
2 long as the superintendent of public instruction finds that the  
3 high school continues to meet all of the following requirements:

4 (a) The high school clearly states to prospective pupils and  
5 their parents that it does not meet the requirements of the  
6 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278b but is  
7 a designated specialty school that is exempt from some of those  
8 requirements and that a pupil who enrolls in the high school and  
9 subsequently transfers to a high school that is not a specialty  
10 school meeting the requirements of this subsection will be required  
11 to comply with the requirements of the Michigan merit standard  
12 under this section and section 1278b.

13 (b) For the most recent year for which the data are available,  
14 the mean scores on both the mathematics and science portions of the  
15 applicable state assessment for the pupils of the high school  
16 exceed by at least 10% the mean scores on the mathematics and  
17 science portions of the applicable state assessment for the pupils  
18 of the school district in which the greatest number of the pupils  
19 of the high school reside.

20 (c) For the most recent year for which the data are available,  
21 the high school had a graduation rate of at least 85%, as  
22 determined by the department.

23 (d) For the most recent year for which the data are available,  
24 at least 75% of the pupils who graduated from the high school the  
25 preceding year are enrolled in a postsecondary institution.

26 (e) All pupils of the high school are required to meet the  
27 mathematics credit requirements of subsection (1)(a)(i), with no  
28 modification of these requirements under section 1278b(5), and each  
29 pupil is offered the curriculum necessary to meet this requirement.



1 (f) All pupils of the high school are required to meet the  
2 science credit requirements of section 1278b(1)(b) and are also  
3 required to successfully complete at least 1 additional science  
4 credit, for a total of at least 4 science credits, with no  
5 modification of these requirements under section 1278b(5), and each  
6 pupil is offered the curriculum necessary to meet this requirement.

7 Sec. 1278b. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section  
8 or section 1278a, as part of the requirements under section 1278a  
9 the board of a school district or board of directors of a public  
10 school academy shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil  
11 unless the pupil has successfully completed all of the following  
12 credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard before  
13 graduating from high school:

14 (a) At least 4 credits in English language arts that are  
15 aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the  
16 department and approved by the state board under this section.

17 (b) At least 3 credits in science that are aligned with  
18 subject area content expectations developed by the department and  
19 approved by the state board under this section. ~~, including~~  
20 ~~completion of at least biology and either chemistry, physics,~~  
21 ~~anatomy, or agricultural science, or successfully completing a~~  
22 ~~program or curriculum that provides the same content as the~~  
23 ~~chemistry or physics benchmarks, as determined by the department. A~~  
24 student may fulfill the requirement for the third science credit by  
25 completing a department-approved computer science program or  
26 curriculum or **through a** formal career and technical education  
27 program or curriculum. The legislature strongly encourages pupils  
28 to complete a fourth credit in science. ~~, such as forensics,~~  
29 ~~astronomy, Earth science, agricultural science, environmental~~

1 ~~science, geology, physics, chemistry, physiology, or microbiology.~~

2 (c) The credit requirements specified in section 1278a(1) (a) (i)  
3 to (iv).

4 (2) If a pupil successfully completes 1 or more of the high  
5 school credits required under subsection (1) or under section  
6 1278a(1) or (3) before entering high school, the pupil must be  
7 given high school credit for that credit.

8 (3) For the purposes of this section and section 1278a, the  
9 department shall do all of the following:

10 (a) Develop subject area content expectations that apply to  
11 the credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are  
12 required under subsection (1) (a) and (b) and section 1278a(1) (a) (i)  
13 and (ii) and the 1/2 credit course in personal finance required  
14 under section 1278a(3) and develop guidelines for the remaining  
15 credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are  
16 required under this section and section 1278a(1) (a), for the online  
17 course or learning experience required under section 1278a(1) (b),  
18 and for the requirements for a language other than English under  
19 section 1278a(2). All of the following apply to these subject area  
20 content expectations and guidelines:

21 (i) All subject area content expectations must be consistent  
22 with the state board recommended model core academic curriculum  
23 content standards under section 1278. Subject area content  
24 expectations or guidelines must not include attitudes, beliefs, or  
25 value systems that are not essential in the legal, economic, and  
26 social structure of our society and to the personal and social  
27 responsibility of citizens of our society. The subject area content  
28 expectations must require pupils to demonstrate critical thinking  
29 skills.

1           (ii) The subject area content expectations and the guidelines  
2 must be approved by the state board under subsection (4).

3           (iii) The subject area content expectations must state in clear  
4 and measurable terms what pupils are expected to know upon  
5 completion of each credit.

6           (iv) The department shall complete the development of the  
7 subject area content expectations that apply to algebra I and the  
8 guidelines for the online course or learning experience under  
9 section 1278a(1) (b) not later than August 1, 2006.

10          (v) The department shall complete development of the subject  
11 area content expectations or guidelines that apply to each of the  
12 other credits required in the Michigan merit standard under  
13 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1) (a) not later than 1 year before  
14 the beginning of the school year in which a pupil entering high  
15 school in 2007 would normally be expected to complete the credit.

16          (vi) If the department has not completed development of the  
17 subject area content expectations that apply to a particular credit  
18 required in the Michigan merit standard under subsection (1) or  
19 section 1278a(1) (a) by the date required under this subdivision, a  
20 school district or public school academy may align the content of  
21 the credit with locally adopted standards.

22          (vii) Until all of the subject area content expectations and  
23 guidelines have been developed by the department and approved by  
24 the state board, the department shall submit a report at least  
25 every 6 months to the senate and house standing committees  
26 responsible for education legislation on the status of the  
27 development of the subject area content expectations and  
28 guidelines. The report must detail any failure by the department to  
29 meet a deadline established under subparagraph (iv) or (v) and the

1 reasons for that failure.

2 (b) Develop and implement a process for developing the subject  
3 area content expectations and guidelines required under this  
4 section. This process must provide for all of the following:

5 (i) Soliciting input from all of the following groups:

6 (A) Recognized experts in the relevant subject areas.

7 (B) Representatives from 4-year colleges or universities,  
8 community colleges, and other postsecondary institutions.

9 (C) Teachers, administrators, and school personnel who have  
10 specialized knowledge of the subject area.

11 (D) Representatives from the business community.

12 (E) Representatives from vocational and career and technical  
13 education providers.

14 (F) Government officials, including officials from the  
15 legislature.

16 (G) Parents of public school pupils.

17 (ii) A review of the subject area content expectations or  
18 guidelines by national experts.

19 (iii) An opportunity for the public to review and provide input  
20 on the proposed subject area content expectations or guidelines  
21 before they are submitted to the state board for approval. The time  
22 period allowed for this review and input must be at least 15  
23 business days.

24 (c) Determine the basic level of technology and internet  
25 access required for pupils to complete the online course or  
26 learning experience requirement of section 1278a(1)(b), and submit  
27 that determination to the state board for approval.

28 (d) Develop and make available material to assist school  
29 districts and public school academies in implementing the

1 requirements of this section and section 1278a. This must include  
2 developing guidelines for alternative instructional delivery  
3 methods as described in subsection (7).

4 (4) The state board shall approve subject area content  
5 expectations and guidelines developed by the department under  
6 subsection (3) before those subject area content expectations and  
7 guidelines may take effect. The state board also shall approve the  
8 basic level of technology and internet access required for pupils  
9 to complete the online course or learning experience requirement of  
10 section 1278a(1)(b).

11 (5) The parent or legal guardian of a pupil who has completed  
12 grade 9, a teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who  
13 currently teaches in or whose expertise is in a subject area  
14 proposed to be modified by the personal curriculum, or who is  
15 determined by the principal to have qualifications otherwise  
16 relevant to developing a personal curriculum, or a school counselor  
17 or school employee qualified to act in a counseling role under  
18 section 1233 or 1233a may request a personal curriculum under this  
19 subsection for the pupil that modifies certain of the Michigan  
20 merit standard requirements under subsection (1) or section  
21 1278a(1)(a). If the request for a personal curriculum is made by  
22 the pupil's parent or legal guardian or, if the pupil is at least  
23 age 18 or is an emancipated minor, by the pupil, the school  
24 district or public school academy shall develop a personal  
25 curriculum for the pupil. A teacher, school counselor, or school  
26 employee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233  
27 or 1233a may contact a pupil's parent or legal guardian to discuss  
28 the possibility and potential benefits of a personal curriculum  
29 under this subsection for the pupil. If all of the requirements

1 under this subsection for completing a personal curriculum are met,  
2 ~~then~~ the board of a school district or board of directors of a  
3 public school academy may award a high school diploma to a pupil  
4 who successfully completes ~~his or her~~ **the pupil's** personal  
5 curriculum even if it does not meet the requirements of the  
6 Michigan merit standard required under subsection (1) and section  
7 1278a(1)(a). All of the following apply to a personal curriculum:

8 (a) The personal curriculum must be developed by a group that  
9 includes at least the pupil, at least 1 of the pupil's parents or  
10 the pupil's legal guardian, and a teacher described in this  
11 subdivision or the pupil's high school counselor or another  
12 designee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233  
13 or 1233a selected by the high school principal. In addition, for a  
14 pupil who receives special education services, a school  
15 psychologist should also be included in this group. The teacher  
16 included in the group developing the personal curriculum must be a  
17 teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who currently teaches  
18 in or whose expertise is in a subject area being modified by the  
19 personal curriculum, or who is determined by the principal to have  
20 qualifications otherwise relevant to the group. This subdivision  
21 does not require an in-person meeting of the group.

22 (b) The personal curriculum must do all of the following:

23 (i) Incorporate as much of the subject area content  
24 expectations of the Michigan merit standard required under  
25 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a) as is practicable for the  
26 pupil.

27 (ii) Establish measurable goals that the pupil must achieve  
28 while enrolled in high school.

29 (iii) Provide a method to evaluate whether the pupil achieved

1 the goals described in subparagraph (ii).

2 (iv) Align with the pupil's educational development plan  
3 developed under subsection (11).

4 (c) Before it takes effect, the personal curriculum must be  
5 agreed to by the pupil's parent or legal guardian and by the  
6 superintendent of the school district or chief executive of the  
7 public school academy or ~~his or her~~ **the superintendent's or chief**  
8 **executive's** designee.

9 (d) The pupil's parent or legal guardian shall communicate  
10 with each of the pupil's teachers to monitor the pupil's progress  
11 toward the goals contained in the pupil's personal curriculum.

12 (e) Revisions may be made in the personal curriculum if the  
13 revisions are developed and agreed to in the same manner as the  
14 original personal curriculum.

15 (f) The English language arts credit requirements of  
16 subsection (1)(a) and the science credit requirements of subsection  
17 (1)(b) are not subject to modification as part of a personal  
18 curriculum under this subsection.

19 (g) The mathematics credit requirements of section  
20 1278a(1)(a)(i) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum if  
21 the pupil successfully completes at least 3-1/2 total credits of  
22 the mathematics credits required under that section before  
23 completing high school ~~, including algebra I and geometry,~~ and  
24 successfully completes at least 1 mathematics credit during ~~his or~~  
25 ~~her~~ **the pupil's** final 2 years of high school. ~~The algebra II credit~~  
26 ~~required under that section may be modified as part of a personal~~  
27 ~~curriculum under this subsection if the pupil meets 1 or more of~~  
28 ~~the following:~~

29 ~~(i) Successfully completes the same content as 1 semester of~~

1 ~~algebra II, as determined by the department.~~

2 ~~(ii) Elects to complete the same content as algebra II over 2~~  
3 ~~years, with a credit awarded for each of those 2 years, and~~  
4 ~~successfully completes that content.~~

5 ~~(iii) Enrolls in a formal career and technical education program~~  
6 ~~or curriculum and in that program or curriculum successfully~~  
7 ~~completes the same content as the algebra II benchmarks assessed on~~  
8 ~~the department-prescribed state high school assessment, as~~  
9 ~~determined by the department.~~

10 ~~(iv) Successfully completes 1 semester of statistics, functions~~  
11 ~~and data analysis, or technical mathematics.~~

12 (h) The social science credit requirements of section  
13 1278a(1) (a) (ii) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum  
14 only if all of the following are met:

15 (i) The pupil has successfully completed 2 credits of the  
16 social science credits required under section 1278a(1), including  
17 the civics course described in section 1166(2).

18 (ii) The modification requires the pupil to complete 1  
19 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or science  
20 or 1 additional credit in a language other than English, or  
21 requires the pupil to complete a formal career and technical  
22 education program. This additional credit must be in addition to  
23 the number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1)  
24 and section 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

25 (i) The health and physical education credit requirement under  
26 section 1278a(1) (a) (iii) may be modified as part of a personal  
27 curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil to complete  
28 1 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or  
29 science or 1 additional credit in a language other than English, or



1 requires the pupil to complete a formal career and technical  
2 education program. This additional credit must be in addition to  
3 the number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1)  
4 and section 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

5 (j) The visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts credit  
6 requirement under section 1278a(1) (a) (iv) may be modified as part of  
7 a personal curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil  
8 to complete 1 additional credit in English language arts,  
9 mathematics, or science or 1 additional credit in a language other  
10 than English, or requires the pupil to complete a formal career and  
11 technical education program. This additional credit must be in  
12 addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under  
13 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

14 (k) If the parent or legal guardian of a pupil requests as  
15 part of the pupil's personal curriculum a modification of the  
16 Michigan merit standard requirements that would not otherwise be  
17 allowed under this section and demonstrates that the modification  
18 is necessary because the pupil is a child with a disability, the  
19 school district or public school academy may allow that additional  
20 modification to the extent necessary because of the pupil's  
21 disability if the group under subdivision (a) determines that the  
22 modification is consistent with both the pupil's educational  
23 development plan under subsection (11) and the pupil's  
24 individualized education program. If the superintendent of public  
25 instruction has reason to believe that a school district or a  
26 public school academy is allowing modifications inconsistent with  
27 the requirements of this subdivision, the superintendent of public  
28 instruction shall monitor the school district or public school  
29 academy to ensure that the school district's or public school

1 academy's policies, procedures, and practices are in compliance  
 2 with the requirements for additional modifications under this  
 3 subdivision. As used in this subdivision, "child with a disability"  
 4 means that term as defined in 20 USC 1401.

5 (l) If a pupil transfers to a school district or public school  
 6 academy from out of state or from a nonpublic school, the pupil's  
 7 parent or legal guardian may request, as part of the pupil's  
 8 personal curriculum, a modification of the Michigan merit standard  
 9 requirements that would not otherwise be allowed under this  
 10 section. The school district or public school academy may allow  
 11 this additional modification for a transfer pupil if all of the  
 12 following are met:

13 (i) The transfer pupil has successfully completed at least the  
 14 equivalent of 2 years of high school credit out of state or at a  
 15 nonpublic school. The school district or public school academy may  
 16 use appropriate assessment examinations to determine what credits,  
 17 if any, the pupil has earned out of state or at a nonpublic school  
 18 that may be used to satisfy the curricular requirements of the  
 19 Michigan merit standard and this subdivision.

20 (ii) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum incorporates as  
 21 much of the subject area content expectations of the Michigan merit  
 22 standard as is practicable for the pupil.

23 (iii) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum requires the  
 24 pupil to successfully complete at least 1 mathematics course during  
 25 ~~his or her~~ **the transfer pupil's** final year of high school  
 26 enrollment. In addition, if the transfer pupil is enrolled in the  
 27 school district or public school academy for at least 1 full school  
 28 year, both of the following apply:

29 (A) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum must require that

1 this mathematics course is at least algebra I.

2 (B) If the transfer pupil demonstrates that ~~he or she~~ **the**  
3 **transfer pupil** has mastered the content of algebra I, the transfer  
4 pupil's personal curriculum must require that this mathematics  
5 course is a course normally taken after completing algebra I.

6 (iv) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum includes the  
7 civics course described in section 1166(2).

8 (m) If a pupil is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor,  
9 the pupil may act on ~~his or her~~ **the pupil's** own behalf under this  
10 subsection.

11 (n) This subsection does not apply to a pupil enrolled in a  
12 high school that is designated as a specialty school under section  
13 1278a(6) and that is exempt under that section from the English  
14 language arts requirement under subsection (1)(a) and the social  
15 science credit requirement under section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

16 (o) The department or a school district or public school  
17 academy shall not limit or discourage the number of pupils with a  
18 personal curriculum on any basis other than the best interests of  
19 each individual pupil.

20 (p) A school district or public school academy annually shall  
21 notify each of its pupils and a parent or legal guardian of each of  
22 its pupils that all pupils are entitled to a personal curriculum  
23 under this subsection. The annual notice must include an  
24 explanation of what a personal curriculum is and state that if a  
25 personal curriculum is requested, the public school or public  
26 school academy will grant that request. The school district or  
27 public school academy shall provide this annual notice to parents  
28 and legal guardians by sending a written notice to each pupil's  
29 home or by including the notice in a newsletter, student handbook,

1 or similar communication that is sent to a pupil's home, and also  
2 shall post the notice on the school district's or public school  
3 academy's website.

4 (6) If a pupil receives special education services, the  
5 pupil's individualized education program, in accordance with the  
6 individuals with disabilities education act, title VI of Public Law  
7 91-230, must identify the appropriate course or courses of study  
8 and identify the supports, accommodations, and modifications  
9 necessary to allow the pupil to progress in the curricular  
10 requirements of this section and section 1278a, or in a personal  
11 curriculum as provided under subsection (5), and meet the  
12 requirements for a high school diploma.

13 (7) The board of a school district or board of directors of a  
14 public school academy that operates a high school shall ensure that  
15 each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for the pupil to  
16 meet the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a.  
17 The board or board of directors may provide this curriculum by  
18 providing the credits specified in this section and section 1278a,  
19 by using alternative instructional delivery methods such as  
20 alternative course work, humanities course sequences, career and  
21 technical education, industrial technology courses, or vocational  
22 education, or by a combination of these. School districts and  
23 public school academies that operate career and technical education  
24 programs are encouraged to integrate the credit requirements of  
25 this section and section 1278a into those programs.

26 (8) If the board of a school district or board of directors of  
27 a public school academy wants its high school to be accredited  
28 under section 1280, the board or board of directors shall ensure  
29 that all elements of the curriculum required under this section and

1 section 1278a are made available to all affected pupils. If a  
2 school district or public school academy does not offer all of the  
3 required credits, the board of the school district or board of  
4 directors of the public school academy shall ensure that the pupil  
5 has access to the required credits by another means, such as  
6 enrollment in a postsecondary course under the postsecondary  
7 enrollment options act, 1996 PA 160, MCL 388.511 to 388.524;  
8 enrollment in an online course; a cooperative arrangement with a  
9 neighboring school district or with a public school academy; or  
10 granting approval under section 6(6) of the state school aid act of  
11 1979, MCL 388.1606, for the pupil to be counted in membership in  
12 another school district.

13 (9) If a pupil is not successfully completing a credit  
14 required for graduation under this section and section 1278a, or is  
15 identified as being at risk of withdrawing from high school, then  
16 the pupil's school district or public school academy shall notify  
17 the pupil's parent or legal guardian or, if the pupil is at least  
18 age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the pupil, of the availability  
19 of tutoring or other supplemental educational support and  
20 counseling services that may be available to the pupil under  
21 existing state or federal programs, such as those programs or  
22 services available under section 31a of the state school aid act of  
23 1979, MCL 388.1631a, or under the no child left behind act of 2001,  
24 Public Law 107-110, or every student succeeds act, Public Law 114-  
25 95.

26 (10) To the extent required by the no child left behind act of  
27 2001, Public Law 107-110, or every student succeeds act, Public Law  
28 114-95, the board of a school district or public school academy  
29 shall ensure that all components of the curricular requirements

1 under this section and section 1278a are taught by highly qualified  
2 teachers. If a school district or public school academy  
3 demonstrates to the department that the school district or public  
4 school academy is unable to meet the requirements of this section  
5 because the school district or public school academy is unable to  
6 hire enough highly qualified teachers, the department shall work  
7 with the school district or public school academy to develop a plan  
8 to allow the school district or public school academy to hire  
9 enough highly qualified teachers to meet the requirements of this  
10 section.

11 (11) The board of a school district or board of directors of a  
12 public school academy shall provide the opportunity for each pupil  
13 to develop an educational development plan during grade 7, and  
14 shall ensure that each pupil reviews ~~his or her~~ **the pupil's**  
15 educational development plan during grade 8 and revises it as  
16 appropriate before ~~he or she~~ **the pupil** begins high school. The  
17 board of a school district or board of directors of a public school  
18 academy shall also ensure that each pupil reviews and revises ~~his~~  
19 ~~or her~~ **the pupil's** educational development plan as appropriate  
20 during each year of high school. An educational development plan  
21 must be developed, reviewed, and revised by the pupil under the  
22 supervision of the pupil's school counselor or another designee  
23 qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233 or 1233a  
24 selected by the school principal and must be based on high school  
25 readiness scores and a career pathways program or similar career  
26 exploration program. An educational development plan must be  
27 designed to assist pupils to identify career development goals as  
28 they relate to academic requirements. During the process of  
29 developing and reviewing a pupil's educational development plan,

1 the pupil must be advised that many of the curricular requirements  
2 of this section and section 1278a may be fulfilled through career  
3 and technical education. In addition, during the process of  
4 developing and reviewing an educational development plan, the pupil  
5 must be provided with all of the following:

6 (a) Information on various types of careers and current and  
7 projected job openings in this state and those jobs' actual and  
8 projected wages.

9 (b) An opportunity to explore careers specific to a pupil's  
10 interests and identify career pathways and goals for achieving  
11 success in those careers, including, but not limited to, the level  
12 and type of educational preparation necessary to accomplish those  
13 goals.

14 (c) An opportunity to develop a talent portfolio. A talent  
15 portfolio must be developed and revised throughout the  
16 implementation of a pupil's educational development plan. A talent  
17 portfolio must include, but is not limited to, a record of the  
18 pupil's experiences, proficiencies, certifications, or  
19 accomplishments that demonstrate talents or marketable skills. The  
20 department, in conjunction with the department of labor and  
21 economic opportunity, shall develop and make available to the  
22 public schools model information materials that districts or public  
23 school academies may use to comply with this subdivision.

24 (12) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if a  
25 school district or public school academy is unable to implement all  
26 of the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a  
27 for pupils entering grade 9 in 2007 or is unable to implement  
28 another requirement of this section or section 1278a, the school  
29 district or public school academy may apply to the department for

1 permission to phase in 1 or more of the requirements of this  
2 section or section 1278a. To apply, the school district or public  
3 school academy shall submit a proposed phase-in plan to the  
4 department. The department shall approve a phase-in plan if the  
5 department determines that the plan will result in the school  
6 district or public school academy making satisfactory progress  
7 toward full implementation of the requirements of this section and  
8 section 1278a. If the department disapproves a proposed phase-in  
9 plan, the department shall work with the school district or public  
10 school academy to develop a satisfactory plan that may be approved.  
11 This subsection does not apply to a high school that is designated  
12 as a specialty school under section 1278a(6) and that is exempt  
13 under that section from the English language arts requirement under  
14 subsection (1)(a) and the social science credit requirement under  
15 section 1278a(1)(a) (ii).

16 (13) This section and section 1278a do not prohibit a pupil  
17 from satisfying or exceeding the credit requirements of the  
18 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278a  
19 through advanced studies such as accelerated course placement,  
20 advanced placement, dual enrollment in a postsecondary institution,  
21 or participation in the international baccalaureate program or an  
22 early college/middle college program.

23 (14) Not later than April 1 of each year, the department shall  
24 submit an annual report to the legislature that evaluates the  
25 overall success of the curriculum required under this section and  
26 section 1278a, the rigor and relevance of the course work required  
27 by the curriculum, the ability of public schools to implement the  
28 curriculum and the required course work, and the impact of the  
29 curriculum on pupil success, and that details any activities the



- 1 department has undertaken to implement this section and section
- 2 1278a or to assist public schools in implementing the requirements
- 3 of this section and section 1278a.