International Baccalaureate and Graduation

It is the policy of Tacoma Public Schools to permit students to earn credit to be applied towards high school graduation in all manners acceptable under the laws and regulations of the State of Washington. Tacoma Public Schools also encourages well-founded, data-driven and prudent innovations that offer choices for different learning styles so that all children will achieve academic excellence. The International Baccalaureate (IB) Program is an internationally recognized academically challenging program that requires students to take written examinations at the end of the program.

As such, it is the policy of Tacoma Public Schools that any student who meets the requirements for a diploma for the IB program as well as required Washington State Assessments, will also be determined to have met the requirements for a high school diploma issued by the Tacoma School District. To receive a high school diploma pursuant to this Policy, a student must complete and pass all required IB courses, as scored at the local level; pass all internal assessments, as scored at the local level; and complete the final examination administered by the IB organization, in each of the required subjects of the program. Such students must also engage in the study of the United State Constitution and the Washington State Constitution to the extent that the same continues to be required of all high school students.

Legal Reference:

RCW 28A.230.090 High school graduation requirements or equivalencies — reevaluation of graduation requirements — review and authorization of proposed changes — credit for courses taken before attending high school — postsecondary credit equivalencies.

RCW 28A.230.120 High school diplomas – Issuance – Option to receive final transitions - Notice

RCW 28A.230.170 Student of constitutions compulsory – Rules

WAC 180-51-066 Minimum requirement for high school graduation – Student entering the ninth grade on or after July 1, 2009.

WAC 392-121-107 Definition — course of study.

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