

**SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 4156**

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, and by adding section 1278e.

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
6 requirements of the Michigan merit standard before graduating from
7 high school:

8 (i) At least 4 credits in mathematics that are aligned with

subject area content expectations developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b, including completion of at least **1 credit in algebra I** ~~, and 1 credit in geometry. , and algebra II, or an integrated sequence of this course content that consists of 3 credits, and an additional mathematics credit, such as trigonometry, statistics, precalculus, calculus, applied math, accounting, business math, a retake of algebra II, or, for only pupils entering grade 8 before 2023, a course in financial literacy as described in section 1165. A pupil may complete algebra II over 2 years with 2 credits awarded or over 1.5 years with 1.5 credits awarded for the purposes of this section and section 1278b. A pupil also may partially or fully fulfill the algebra II requirement by completing a department-approved formal career and technical education program or curriculum, such as a program or curriculum in electronics, machining, construction, welding, engineering, computer science, or renewable energy, and in that program or curriculum successfully completing the same content as the algebra II benchmarks assessed on the department-prescribed state high school assessment, as determined by the department. The department shall post on its website guidelines for implementation of the immediately preceding sentence. Each pupil must successfully complete at least 1 mathematics course during his or her~~ **the pupil's** final year of high school enrollment. ~~This subparagraph does not require completion of mathematics courses in any particular sequence.~~ **A pupil may fulfill the remaining 2 credits in mathematics through completion of any of the following courses. This subparagraph does not require the board of a school district or intermediate school district or the board of directors of a public school academy to offer all of the following courses.**

1 However, each high school operated by the board or board of
2 directors must offer at least sufficient courses for pupils to be
3 able to complete the requirements of this subparagraph:

4 (A) 1 credit in trigonometry.

5 (B) 1 credit in algebra II.

6 (C) 1 credit in precalculus.

7 (D) 1 credit in calculus.

8 (E) 1 credit in applied mathematics.

9 (F) 1 credit in statistics.

10 (G) 1 credit in computer science. A course in computer science
11 used to fulfill a credit under this subparagraph may not be used to
12 fulfill any other credit requirement under this section or section
13 1278b.

14 (H) 1/2 credit in accounting.

15 (I) 1/2 credit in business mathematics.

16 (J) 1/2 credit in construction mathematics.

17 (K) 1/2 credit in algebra-based physics.

18 (L) 1/2 credit in algebra-based chemistry.

19 (M) 1/2 credit in economics with a focus on mathematics.

20 (N) Up to 2 credits from a department-approved formal career
21 and technical education program.

22 (O) Up to 2 credits from mathematics courses developed or
23 approved by the board of the school district or intermediate school
24 district or board of directors of the public school academy in
25 which the pupil is enrolled.

26 (ii) At least 3 credits in social science that are aligned with
27 subject area content expectations developed by the department and
28 approved by the state board under section 1278b, including
29 completion of at least 1 credit in United States history and

geography, 1 credit in world history and geography, 1/2 credit in economics, and the civics course described in section 1166(2). For only pupils entering grade 8 before 2023, the 1/2-credit economics requirement may be satisfied by completion of at least a 1/2-credit course in personal economics that includes a financial literacy component as described in section 1165, if that course covers the subject area content expectations for economics developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b. The 1/2 credit in economics required under this subparagraph cannot be fulfilled by completion of the 1/2 credit course in personal finance described in subsection (3).

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

(iv) At least 1 credit in visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts ~~, as defined by the department,~~ that is aligned with guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b. ~~A school district or public school academy is strongly encouraged to offer visual arts and performing arts courses.~~ **The credit in visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts under this subparagraph may be fulfilled through completion of any of the following courses. This subparagraph does not require the board of a school district or intermediate school district or**

1 the board of directors of a public school academy to offer all of
2 the following courses. However, each high school operated by the
3 board or board of directors must offer at least sufficient courses
4 for pupils to be able to complete the requirements of this
5 subparagraph:

- 6 (A) 1 credit in general music.
- 7 (B) 1 credit in marching band.
- 8 (C) 1 credit in concert band.
- 9 (D) 1 credit in orchestra.
- 10 (E) 1 credit in choral music.
- 11 (F) 1 credit in strings.
- 12 (G) 1 credit in music theory.
- 13 (H) 1 credit in keyboard.
- 14 (I) 1 credit in jazz ensemble.
- 15 (J) 1 credit in wind ensemble.
- 16 (K) 1 credit in choir.
- 17 (L) 1 credit in art.
- 18 (M) 1 credit in visual arts.
- 19 (N) 1 credit in visual studies.
- 20 (O) 1 credit in drawing.
- 21 (P) 1 credit in painting.
- 22 (Q) 1 credit in ceramics and pottery.
- 23 (R) 1 credit in design.
- 24 (S) 1 credit in art appreciation.
- 25 (T) 1 credit in illustration.
- 26 (U) 1 credit in computer graphics and design.
- 27 (V) 1 credit in video.
- 28 (W) 1 credit in photography and film.
- 29 (X) 1 credit in art history.

(Y) 1 credit in art criticism.

(Z) 1 credit in fiber arts.

(AA) 1 credit in jewelry.

(BB) 1 credit in yearbook.

(CC) 1 credit in theater.

(DD) 1 credit in graphic design.

(EE) 1 credit in shop.

(FF) 1 credit in culinary studies.

(GG) 1 credit in computer science. A course in computer science used to fulfill a credit under this subparagraph may not be used to fulfill any other credit requirement under this section or section 1278b.

(HH) 1 credit from a department-approved formal career and technical education program.

(II) 1 credit in a visual arts course developed or approved by the board of the school district or intermediate school district or board of directors of the public school academy in which the pupil is enrolled.

(v) Beginning with pupils entering high school in the 2029-2030 school year, at least 1 credit in future skills that is aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b. The credit in future skills required under this subparagraph is fulfilled through completion of the 1/2 credit course in personal finance described in subsection (3) and the 1/2 credit course in workplace development described in subsection (4).

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

(b) Meets the online course or learning experience requirement of this subsection. A school district or public school academy

shall provide the basic level of technology and internet access required by the state board to complete the online course or learning experience. For a pupil to meet this requirement, the pupil must meet either of the following, as determined by the school district or public school academy:

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

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

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, and in addition to the requirements under subsection (1), the board of a school district or board of directors of a public school academy shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil has successfully completed during grades K to 12 at least ~~2~~ **1 credit** that ~~are~~ **is** grade-appropriate in a language other than English or ~~course work~~ **coursework** or other learning experiences that are substantially equivalent to ~~2 credits~~ **1 credit** in a language other than English, based on guidelines developed by the department. A pupil may partially or fully fulfill ~~1 credit~~ of this requirement by completing a department-approved formal career and technical education program or curriculum or by completing visual or performing arts instruction that is in addition to the requirements under subsection (1) (a) (iv). The board of a school district or board of directors of a public school academy is strongly encouraged to ensure that all pupils complete ~~at least 1 credit~~ **the credit** in a language other than English **required under**

1 **this subsection** in grades K to ~~6.~~**8**. For the purposes of this
 2 subsection, both of the following apply:

3 (a) American Sign Language is considered to be a language
 4 other than English.

5 **(b) Computer coding is considered to be a language other than**
 6 **English.**

7 **(c)** ~~(b)~~ The pupil may meet all or part of this requirement
 8 with online ~~course work.~~**coursework.**

9 (3) Beginning with pupils entering grade 8 in 2023, the board
 10 of a school district or board of directors of a public school
 11 academy shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the
 12 pupil completes a 1/2 credit course in personal finance that aligns
 13 with subject area content expectations developed by the department
 14 and approved by the state board under section 1278b. The 1/2 credit
 15 course in personal finance must fulfill 1/2 credit of ~~mathematics~~
 16 ~~required under subsection (1) (a) (i), 1/2 credit of visual arts,~~
 17 ~~performing arts, or applied arts required under subsection~~
 18 ~~(1) (a) (iv), or 1/2 credit of a language other than English required~~
 19 ~~under subsection (2), as determined by the board of the school~~
 20 ~~district or board of directors of the public school academy in~~
 21 ~~which the pupil is enrolled.~~ **future skills required under**
 22 **subsection (1) (a) (v).** The 1/2 credit course in personal finance
 23 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) Beginning with pupils entering grade 8 in 2029, the board**
 29 **of a school district or board of directors of a public school**

academy shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil completes a 1/2 credit course in workplace development that aligns with subject area content expectations developed by the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b. The 1/2 credit course in workplace development must fulfill 1/2 credit of future skills required under subsection (1)(a)(v). The 1/2 credit course in workplace development under this section must include instruction on at least all of the following topics:

(a) Resume building.

(b) Career pathway exploration.

(c) General workplace development components.

~~(5)~~ (4) The requirements under this section and section 1278b for a high school diploma are in addition to any local requirements imposed by the board of a school district or board of directors of a public school academy. The board of a school district or board of directors of a public school academy, as a local requirement for a high school diploma, may require a pupil to complete the Michigan merit examination under section 1279g or may require a pupil to participate in the MIAccess assessments if appropriate for the pupil.

~~(6)~~ (5) For the purposes of this section and section 1278b, all of the following apply:

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

1 (b) A school district or public school academy shall base its
2 determination of whether a pupil has successfully completed the
3 subject area content expectations or guidelines developed by the
4 department that apply to a credit at least in part on the pupil's
5 performance on assessments developed or selected by the department
6 or on 1 or more assessments developed or selected by the school
7 district or public school academy that measure a pupil's
8 understanding of the subject area content expectations or
9 guidelines that apply to the credit.

10 (c) A school district or public school academy shall also
11 grant a pupil a credit if the pupil earns a qualifying score, as
12 determined by the department, on assessments developed or selected
13 for the subject area by the department or the pupil earns a
14 qualifying score, as determined by the school district or public
15 school academy, on 1 or more assessments developed or selected by
16 the school district or public school academy that measure a pupil's
17 understanding of the subject area content expectations or
18 guidelines that apply to the credit.

19 **(7)** ~~(6)~~—If a high school is designated by the superintendent
20 of public instruction as a specialty school and the high school
21 meets the requirements of subsection ~~(7)~~, **(8)**, the pupils of the
22 high school are not required to successfully complete the 4 credits
23 in English language arts required under section 1278b(1)(a) or the
24 3 credits in social science required under subsection (1)(a)(ii) and
25 the school district or public school academy is not required to
26 ensure that each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for
27 meeting those English language arts or social science credit
28 requirements. The superintendent of public instruction may
29 designate up to 15 high schools that meet the requirements of this

1 subsection as specialty schools. Subject to this maximum number,
2 the superintendent of public instruction shall designate a high
3 school as a specialty school if the superintendent of public
4 instruction finds that the high school meets all of the following
5 criteria:

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

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

13 **(8)** ~~(7)~~—A high school that is designated by the superintendent
14 of public instruction as a specialty school under subsection ~~(6)~~
15 **(7)** is only exempt from requirements as described under subsection
16 ~~(6)~~ **(7)** as long as the superintendent of public instruction finds
17 that the high school continues to meet all of the following
18 requirements:

19 (a) The high school clearly states to prospective pupils and
20 ~~their~~ **the prospective pupils'** parents that it does not meet the
21 requirements of the Michigan merit standard under this section and
22 section 1278b but is a designated specialty school that is exempt
23 from some of those requirements and that a pupil who enrolls in the
24 high school and subsequently transfers to a high school that is not
25 a specialty school meeting the requirements of this subsection will
26 be required to comply with the requirements of the Michigan merit
27 standard under this section and section 1278b.

28 (b) For the most recent year for which the data are available,
29 the mean scores on both the mathematics and science portions of the

1 applicable state assessment for the pupils of the high school
2 exceed by at least 10% the mean scores on the mathematics and
3 science portions of the applicable state assessment for the pupils
4 of the school district in which the greatest number of the pupils
5 of the high school reside.

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

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

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

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

22 Sec. 1278b. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section
23 or section 1278a, as part of the requirements under section 1278a
24 the board of a school district or board of directors of a public
25 school academy shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil
26 unless the pupil has successfully completed all of the following
27 credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard before
28 graduating from high school:

29 (a) At least 4 credits in English language arts that are

1 aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the
2 department and approved by the state board under this section. A
3 pupil may fulfill the credits in English language arts through
4 completion of any of the following courses. This subdivision does
5 not require the board of a school district or intermediate school
6 district or the board of directors of a public school academy to
7 offer all of the following courses. However, each high school
8 operated by the board or board of directors must offer at least
9 sufficient courses for pupils to be able to complete the
10 requirements of this subdivision:

- 11 (i) 1 credit in English.
- 12 (ii) 1 credit in language arts.
- 13 (iii) 1 credit in grammar.
- 14 (iv) 1 credit in writing.
- 15 (v) 1 credit in poetry.
- 16 (vi) 1 credit in literature.
- 17 (vii) 1 credit in great books.
- 18 (viii) 1 credit in Shakespeare.
- 19 (ix) 1 credit in dramatic literature.
- 20 (x) 1 credit in business writing.
- 21 (xi) 1 credit in school newspaper.
- 22 (xii) 1 credit in yearbook.
- 23 (xiii) 1 credit in public speaking.
- 24 (xiv) 1 credit in debate.
- 25 (xv) 1 credit from a department-approved formal career and
26 technical education program.
- 27 (xvi) Up to 4 credits from English language arts courses
28 developed or approved by the board of the school district or

1 intermediate school district or board of directors of the public
2 school academy in which the pupil is enrolled.

3 (b) At least 3 credits in science that are aligned with
4 subject area content expectations developed by the department and
5 approved by the state board under this section.~~7 including~~
6 ~~completion of~~ **A student must complete** at least **1 credit** in biology
7 and either **1 credit** in chemistry, **earth science, agricultural**
8 **science**, physics, anatomy, or agricultural science, or successfully
9 completing a program or curriculum that provides the same content
10 as the chemistry or physics benchmarks, as determined by the
11 department. A student may fulfill the requirement for the third
12 science credit by completing a department-approved computer science
13 program or curriculum or formal career and technical education
14 program or curriculum. The legislature strongly encourages pupils
15 to complete a fourth credit in science, such as forensics,
16 astronomy, Earth science, agricultural science, environmental
17 science, geology, physics, chemistry, physiology, or
18 microbiology. **remaining credit** in science through completion of any
19 of the following courses. This subdivision does not require the
20 board of a school district or intermediate school district or the
21 board of directors of a public school academy to offer all of the
22 following courses. However, each high school operated by the board
23 or board of directors must offer at least sufficient courses for
24 pupils to be able to complete the requirements of this subdivision:

25 (i) 1 credit in physics.

26 (ii) 1 credit in chemistry.

27 (iii) 1 credit in anatomy.

28 (iv) 1 credit in biology.

29 (v) 1 credit in microbiology.

(vi) 1 credit in environmental science.

(vii) 1 credit in geology.

(viii) 1 credit in computer science. A course in computer science used to fulfill a credit under this subdivision may not be used to fulfill any other credit requirement under this section or section 1278a.

(ix) 1 credit in forensic science.

(x) 1 credit in agricultural science.

(xi) 1 credit in earth science.

(xii) 1 credit in computer literacy.

(xiii) 1 credit in keyboarding.

(xiv) 1 credit in computer applications.

(xv) 1 credit in web design.

(xvi) 1 credit in programming.

(xvii) 1 credit from a science course developed or approved by the board of the school district or intermediate school district or board of directors of the public school academy in which the student is enrolled.

(xviii) 1 credit from a department-approved formal career and technical education program or curriculum.

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

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

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

(a) Develop subject area content expectations that apply to the credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are required under subsection (1)(a) and (b) and section 1278a(1)(a)(i) and (ii), ~~and~~ the 1/2 credit course in personal finance required under section 1278a(3), **and the workplace development course required under section 1278a(4)**, and develop guidelines for the remaining credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are required under this section and section 1278a(1)(a), for the online course or learning experience required under section 1278a(1)(b), and for the requirements for a language other than English under section 1278a(2). All of the following apply to these subject area content expectations and guidelines:

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

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

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

(iv) The department shall complete the development of the subject area content expectations that apply to algebra I and the guidelines for the online course or learning experience under

1 section 1278a(1)(b) not later than August 1, 2006.

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

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

14 (vii) Until all of the subject area content expectations and
15 guidelines have been developed by the department and approved by
16 the state board, the department shall submit a report at least
17 every 6 months to the senate and house standing committees
18 responsible for education legislation on the status of the
19 development of the subject area content expectations and
20 guidelines. The report must detail any failure by the department to
21 meet a deadline established under subparagraph (iv) or (v) and the
22 reasons for that failure.

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

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

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

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

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

3 (D) Representatives from the business community.

4 (E) Representatives from vocational and career and technical
5 education providers.

6 (F) Government officials, including officials from the
7 legislature.

8 (G) Parents of public school pupils.

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

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

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

20 (d) Develop and make available material to assist school
21 districts and public school academies in implementing the
22 requirements of this section and section 1278a. This must include
23 developing guidelines for alternative instructional delivery
24 methods as described in subsection (7).

25 (4) The state board shall approve subject area content
26 expectations and guidelines developed by the department under
27 subsection (3) before those subject area content expectations and
28 guidelines may take effect. The state board also shall approve the
29 basic level of technology and internet access required for pupils

1 to complete the online course or learning experience requirement of
2 section 1278a(1)(b).

3 (5) The parent or legal guardian of a pupil who has completed
4 grade 9, a teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who
5 currently teaches in or whose expertise is in a subject area
6 proposed to be modified by the personal curriculum, or who is
7 determined by the principal to have qualifications otherwise
8 relevant to developing a personal curriculum, or a school counselor
9 or school employee qualified to act in a counseling role under
10 section 1233 or 1233a may request a personal curriculum under this
11 subsection for the pupil that modifies certain of the Michigan
12 merit standard requirements under subsection (1) or section
13 1278a(1)(a). If the request for a personal curriculum is made by
14 the pupil's parent or legal guardian or, if the pupil is at least
15 age 18 or is an emancipated minor, by the pupil, the school
16 district or public school academy shall develop a personal
17 curriculum for the pupil. A teacher, school counselor, or school
18 employee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233
19 or 1233a may contact a pupil's parent or legal guardian to discuss
20 the possibility and potential benefits of a personal curriculum
21 under this subsection for the pupil. If all of the requirements
22 under this subsection for completing a personal curriculum are met,
23 then the board of a school district or board of directors of a
24 public school academy may award a high school diploma to a pupil
25 who successfully completes ~~his or her~~ **the pupil's** personal
26 curriculum even if it does not meet the requirements of the
27 Michigan merit standard required under subsection (1) and section
28 1278a(1)(a). All of the following apply to a personal curriculum:

29 (a) The personal curriculum must be developed by a group that

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

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

15 (i) Incorporate as much of the subject area content
16 expectations of the Michigan merit standard required under
17 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a) as is practicable for the
18 pupil.

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

21 (iii) Provide a method to evaluate whether the pupil achieved
22 the goals described in subparagraph (ii).

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

25 (c) Before it takes effect, the personal curriculum must be
26 agreed to by the pupil's parent or legal guardian and by the
27 superintendent of the school district or chief executive of the
28 public school academy or his or her designee.

29 (d) The pupil's parent or legal guardian shall communicate

1 with each of the pupil's teachers to monitor the pupil's progress
 2 toward the goals contained in the pupil's personal curriculum.

3 (e) Revisions may be made in the personal curriculum if the
 4 revisions are developed and agreed to in the same manner as the
 5 original personal curriculum.

6 (f) The English language arts credit requirements of
 7 subsection (1)(a) and the science credit requirements of subsection
 8 (1)(b) are not subject to modification as part of a personal
 9 curriculum under this subsection.

10 (g) The mathematics credit requirements of section
 11 1278a(1)(a)(i) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum if
 12 the pupil successfully completes at least ~~3-1/2-3~~ total credits of
 13 the mathematics credits required under that section before
 14 completing high school, including algebra I and geometry, and
 15 successfully completes at least 1 mathematics credit during ~~his or~~
 16 ~~her~~ **the pupil's** final 2 years of high school. ~~The algebra II credit~~
 17 ~~required under that section may be modified as part of a personal~~
 18 ~~curriculum under this subsection if the pupil meets 1 or more of~~
 19 ~~the following:~~

20 ~~(i) Successfully completes the same content as 1 semester of~~
 21 ~~algebra II, as determined by the department.~~

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

25 ~~(iii) Enrolls in a formal career and technical education program~~
 26 ~~or curriculum and in that program or curriculum successfully~~
 27 ~~completes the same content as the algebra II benchmarks assessed on~~
 28 ~~the department-prescribed state high school assessment, as~~
 29 ~~determined by the department.~~

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

3 (h) The social science credit requirements of section
4 1278a(1) (a) (ii) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum
5 only if all of the following are met:

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

9 (ii) The modification requires the pupil to complete 1
10 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or science
11 or 1 additional credit in a language other than English, or
12 requires the pupil to complete a formal career and technical
13 education program. This additional credit must be in addition to
14 the number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1)
15 and section 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

16 (i) The health and physical education credit requirement under
17 section 1278a(1) (a) (iii) may be modified as part of a personal
18 curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil to complete
19 1 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or
20 science 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 (j) The visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts credit
26 requirement under section 1278a(1) (a) (iv) may be modified as part of
27 a personal curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil
28 to complete 1 additional credit in English language arts,
29 mathematics, or science or 1 additional credit in a language other

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

5 (k) If the parent or legal guardian of a pupil requests as
6 part of the pupil's personal curriculum a modification of the
7 Michigan merit standard requirements that would not otherwise be
8 allowed under this section and demonstrates that the modification
9 is necessary because the pupil is a child with a disability, the
10 school district or public school academy may allow that additional
11 modification to the extent necessary because of the pupil's
12 disability if the group under subdivision (a) determines that the
13 modification is consistent with both the pupil's educational
14 development plan under subsection (11) and the pupil's
15 individualized education program. If the superintendent of public
16 instruction has reason to believe that a school district or a
17 public school academy is allowing modifications inconsistent with
18 the requirements of this subdivision, the superintendent of public
19 instruction shall monitor the school district or public school
20 academy to ensure that the school district's or public school
21 academy's policies, procedures, and practices are in compliance
22 with the requirements for additional modifications under this
23 subdivision. As used in this subdivision, "child with a disability"
24 means that term as defined in 20 USC 1401.

25 (l) If a pupil transfers to a school district or public school
26 academy from out of state or from a nonpublic school, the pupil's
27 parent or legal guardian may request, as part of the pupil's
28 personal curriculum, a modification of the Michigan merit standard
29 requirements that would not otherwise be allowed under this

1 section. The school district or public school academy may allow
 2 this additional modification for a transfer pupil if all of the
 3 following are met:

4 (i) The transfer pupil has successfully completed at least the
 5 equivalent of 2 years of high school credit out of state or at a
 6 nonpublic school. The school district or public school academy may
 7 use appropriate assessment examinations to determine what credits,
 8 if any, the pupil has earned out of state or at a nonpublic school
 9 that may be used to satisfy the curricular requirements of the
 10 Michigan merit standard and this subdivision.

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

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

20 (A) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum must require that
 21 this mathematics course is at least algebra I.

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

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

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

1 subsection.

2 (n) This subsection does not apply to a pupil enrolled in a
3 high school that is designated as a specialty school under section
4 ~~1278a(6)~~**1278a(7)** and that is exempt under that section from the
5 English language arts requirement under subsection (1)(a) and the
6 social science credit requirement under section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

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

11 (p) A school district or public school academy annually shall
12 notify each of its pupils and a parent or legal guardian of each of
13 its pupils that all pupils are entitled to a personal curriculum
14 under this subsection. The annual notice must include an
15 explanation of what a personal curriculum is and state that if a
16 personal curriculum is requested, the public school or public
17 school academy will grant that request. The school district or
18 public school academy shall provide this annual notice to parents
19 and legal guardians by sending a written notice to each pupil's
20 home or by including the notice in a newsletter, student handbook,
21 or similar communication that is sent to a pupil's home, and also
22 shall post the notice on the school district's or public school
23 academy's website.

24 (6) If a pupil receives special education services, the
25 pupil's individualized education program, in accordance with the
26 individuals with disabilities education act, title VI of Public Law
27 91-230, must identify the appropriate course or courses of study
28 and identify the supports, accommodations, and modifications
29 necessary to allow the pupil to progress in the curricular

1 requirements of this section and section 1278a, or in a personal
2 curriculum as provided under subsection (5), and meet the
3 requirements for a high school diploma.

4 (7) The board of a school district or board of directors of a
5 public school academy that operates a high school shall ensure that
6 each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for the pupil to
7 meet the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a.
8 The board or board of directors may provide this curriculum by
9 providing the credits specified in this section and section 1278a ~~7~~
10 by using alternative instructional delivery methods such as
11 alternative ~~course work~~, **coursework**, humanities course sequences,
12 career and technical education, industrial technology courses, or
13 vocational education, or by a combination of these. School
14 districts and public school academies that operate career and
15 technical education programs are encouraged to integrate the credit
16 requirements of this section and section 1278a into those programs.

17 (8) If the board of a school district or board of directors of
18 a public school academy wants its high school to be accredited
19 under section 1280, the board or board of directors shall ensure
20 that all elements of the curriculum required under this section and
21 section 1278a are made available to all affected pupils. If a
22 school district or public school academy does not offer all of the
23 required credits, the board of the school district or board of
24 directors of the public school academy shall ensure that the pupil
25 has access to the required credits by another means, such as
26 enrollment in a postsecondary course under the postsecondary
27 enrollment options act, 1996 PA 160, MCL 388.511 to 388.524;
28 enrollment in an online course; a cooperative arrangement with a
29 neighboring school district or with a public school academy; or

1 granting approval under section 6(6) of the state school aid act of
2 1979, MCL 388.1606, for the pupil to be counted in membership in
3 another school district.

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

17 (10) To the extent required by the no child left behind act of
18 2001, Public Law 107-110, or every student succeeds act, Public Law
19 114-95, the board of a school district or public school academy
20 shall ensure that all components of the curricular requirements
21 under this section and section 1278a are taught by highly qualified
22 teachers. If a school district or public school academy
23 demonstrates to the department that the school district or public
24 school academy is unable to meet the requirements of this section
25 because the school district or public school academy is unable to
26 hire enough highly qualified teachers, the department shall work
27 with the school district or public school academy to develop a plan
28 to allow the school district or public school academy to hire
29 enough highly qualified teachers to meet the requirements of this

1 section.

2 (11) The board of a school district or board of directors of a
3 public school academy shall provide the opportunity for each pupil
4 to develop an educational development plan during grade 7, and
5 shall ensure that each pupil reviews ~~his or her~~ **the pupil's**
6 educational development plan during grade 8 and revises it as
7 appropriate before he or she begins high school. The board of a
8 school district or board of directors of a public school academy
9 shall also ensure that each pupil reviews and revises ~~his or her~~
10 **the pupil's** educational development plan as appropriate during each
11 year of high school. An educational development plan must be
12 developed, reviewed, and revised by the pupil under the supervision
13 of the pupil's school counselor or another designee qualified to
14 act in a counseling role under section 1233 or 1233a selected by
15 the school principal and must be based on high school readiness
16 scores and a career pathways program or similar career exploration
17 program. An educational development plan must be designed to assist
18 pupils to identify career development goals as they relate to
19 academic requirements. During the process of developing and
20 reviewing a pupil's educational development plan, the pupil must be
21 advised that many of the curricular requirements of this section
22 and section 1278a may be fulfilled through career and technical
23 education. In addition, during the process of developing and
24 reviewing an educational development plan, the pupil must be
25 provided with all of the following:

26 (a) Information on various types of careers and current and
27 projected job openings in this state and those jobs' actual and
28 projected wages.

29 (b) An opportunity to explore careers specific to a pupil's

1 interests and identify career pathways and goals for achieving
2 success in those careers, including, but not limited to, the level
3 and type of educational preparation necessary to accomplish those
4 goals.

5 (c) An opportunity to develop a talent portfolio. A talent
6 portfolio must be developed and revised throughout the
7 implementation of a pupil's educational development plan. A talent
8 portfolio must include, but is not limited to, a record of the
9 pupil's experiences, proficiencies, certifications, or
10 accomplishments that demonstrate talents or marketable skills. The
11 department, in conjunction with the department of labor and
12 economic opportunity, shall develop and make available to the
13 public schools model information materials that districts or public
14 school academies may use to comply with this subdivision.

15 (12) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if a
16 school district or public school academy is unable to implement all
17 of the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a
18 for pupils entering grade 9 in 2007 or is unable to implement
19 another requirement of this section or section 1278a, the school
20 district or public school academy may apply to the department for
21 permission to phase in 1 or more of the requirements of this
22 section or section 1278a. To apply, the school district or public
23 school academy shall submit a proposed phase-in plan to the
24 department. The department shall approve a phase-in plan if the
25 department determines that the plan will result in the school
26 district or public school academy making satisfactory progress
27 toward full implementation of the requirements of this section and
28 section 1278a. If the department disapproves a proposed phase-in
29 plan, the department shall work with the school district or public

1 school academy to develop a satisfactory plan that may be approved.
 2 This subsection does not apply to a high school that is designated
 3 as a specialty school under section ~~1278a(6)~~**1278a(7)** and that is
 4 exempt under that section from the English language arts
 5 requirement under subsection (1)(a) and the social science credit
 6 requirement under section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

7 (13) This section and section 1278a do not prohibit a pupil
 8 from satisfying or exceeding the credit requirements of the
 9 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278a
 10 through advanced studies such as accelerated course placement,
 11 advanced placement, dual enrollment in a postsecondary institution,
 12 or participation in the international baccalaureate program or an
 13 early college/middle college program.

14 (14) Not later than April 1 of each year, the department shall
 15 submit an annual report to the legislature that evaluates the
 16 overall success of the curriculum required under this section and
 17 section 1278a, the rigor and relevance of the ~~course work~~
 18 **coursework** required by the curriculum, the ability of public
 19 schools to implement the curriculum and the required ~~course work~~,
 20 **coursework**, and the impact of the curriculum on pupil success, and
 21 that details any activities the department has undertaken to
 22 implement this section and section 1278a or to assist public
 23 schools in implementing the requirements of this section and
 24 section 1278a.

25 **Sec. 1278e. (1) By not later than June 30, 2028, the**
 26 **department shall develop or adopt, and provide to schools, model**
 27 **programs of instruction for all courses described in sections 1278a**
 28 **and 1278b. The model programs of instruction must align with**
 29 **subject area content expectations and guidelines developed by the**

1 department and approved by the state board under section 1278b.

2 (2) The board of a school district or intermediate school
3 district or board of directors of a public school academy is not
4 required to adopt or implement the model programs of instruction
5 developed or adopted by the department under subsection (1).