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Dear Cavalier Parent/Guardian,

Beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, starting with the Class of 2018, Ohio high school students were required to take a new series of assessments in order to meet graduation requirements. These new state exams are the new graduation standard for all high school students in the Class of 2018 and beyond in Ohio. To be clear, this graduation option (one of three options) in terms of testing is the most obtainable option to ensure your child graduates from high school in the state of Ohio.

These new assessments (once called Ohio's Next Generation Assessments) are now called the **End-of-Course State Exams**. For each of the seven end-of-course state tests, a student earns one to five graduation points. Students have the potential to earn a total of 35 points. **To meet the graduation requirement, a student must earn a minimum number of 18 points from the seven tests.** This graduation option gives a student flexibility in accumulating 18 points meaning a student's scores on any one exam is not as important as his or her combined scores in the various subjects or in total. A high score on one test can balance a low score on another test.

PERFORMANCE LEVEL	GRADUATION POINTS
Advanced	5
Accelerated	4
Proficient	3
Basic	2
Limited	1

Students are tested in four subject areas: **English** (courses: English I and English II), **math** (courses: Algebra I and Geometry), **science** (courses: Biology or Physical Science [option for the Class of 2018 only]), and **social studies** (courses: American Government and American History). **A student must earn a total of at least four points on English tests, four points on math tests, and six points on science and social studies tests.** These minimum point totals of 4-4-6 do not meet the minimum of 18 total necessary points to graduate so a student must exceed minimums in at least one subsection of the tests if not multiple subsections in order to achieve graduation through this graduation option. Every state testable course for end-of-course exams are courses CHS students should take during their freshman and sophomore years. This gives CHS students the maximum number opportunities (11 times) to retake exams if they do not achieve the minimums of subsections (4-4-6) or the total of 18 graduation points.

**Class of 2018 Only:**

Any student who took a course before a state end-of-course exam was available (Algebra I in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade in 2013-2014, or Physical Science, American History, or American Government 1<sup>st</sup> semester of 2014-2015) and passed the class is not required to take the subjects end-of-course exam. Instead, the final grade the student received in the course will be calculated thusly toward the student's total points: A=5 points, B=4 points, C or D=3 points, F=1 point.

**Retaking State End-of-Course Exams:**

To retake state end-of-course exams a student must first take all seven exams, fail to achieve the necessary total of 18 total graduation points, and/or fail to achieve minimum point totals for specific subjects (ELA=4 points, Math=4 points, Social Studies/Science=6 points). Any student who meets the above criteria will be required to retake one or more select exams after receiving additional intervention from the school in the form of lab courses, tutorials through APEX, and/or be a part of retaking the course in which the student is going to retest. Remember under the new system, the score for students on individual assessments is NOT as important as the totality of the scores to equal out to 4 (ELA), 4 Math), 6 (Science/Social Studies), and at least 18 points (total). A student who has met all of the EOC testing requirements may request to retake exams of their choice by making a written request to the guidance office. Students who reach minimum graduation requirements will not be obligated to continue to take exams after

taking all 7 nor will the school seek out these students to retest. Retake opportunities include: Fall Block administration; Spring administration; and Summer administration (if offered). A student will use the higher score of any end-of-course test taken for meeting graduation requirements.

**Substituting Tests:**

**Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:** Students taking Advanced Placement courses in American history or American government **may** take tests specially designed for these courses instead of the state end-of-course test for that kind of course, to avoid double testing. AP exams are also scored on a 1-5 scale and the conversion to Ohio graduation points from AP exam points are as follows: 5 or 4 (AP)=5 points, 3 (AP)=4 points, 2 (AP)=3 points, 1(AP)=1 point.

**College Credit Plus Courses:** Students taking College Credit Plus courses in these subjects **will** use the course grade, not end-of-course test points, to determine their points earned toward graduation. The final grade the student received in the course will be calculated thusly toward the student's total points: A or B=5 points, C=4 points, D=3 points, F or drop of course=0 points.

**Transfer Students:**

Students who transfer into a district with no previous scores and only a few courses with corresponding tests will have their graduation point requirement minimum prorated. The table below shows how the points change based on the number of tests remaining:

<b>Graduation Points Requirement for Transfer Students</b>			
<b>Tests Remaining</b>	<b>Points Required</b>	<b>Tests Remaining</b>	<b>Points Required</b>
7	18	4	10
6	15	3	8
5	13	2	5

*Students must earn a minimum of five points across the English II and Geometry end-of-course tests.*

Regardless of the tests remaining, transfer students must earn a minimum of five points across the English II and geometry end-of-course tests in order to graduate.

**Other Graduation Options:**

Ohio end-of-course exams is only one of three options a students in Ohio can use to satisfy graduation requirements connected to testing. Another option is regardless of a student's scores on Ohio's end of course exams, if he or she scores **remediation-free scores on the ACT or SAT** the student satisfies state testing requirements. Remediation-free scores are as follows: ACT: English 18 or higher, Math 22 or higher, Reading 22 or higher; SAT: Writing 430 or higher, Math 520 or higher, Reading 450 or higher. The CCSD will give the ACT for all students in our district for free each Spring of the student's junior year of high school. A third option, is for a student to **achieve industry approved credentials and a work-readiness score on WorkKeys**. This option is best suited for students attending the Pickaway-Ross Career Technology Center (PRCTC) or taking advantage of Senior Credentialing Courses.

**Class of 2017:**

Ohio high school students in the Class of 2017 are the only remaining students in Ohio still under the graduation requirements for state testing that use the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT) to determine graduation status. If your student is in the Class of 2017 you may disregard the previous information as it does not apply to him or her. Please be aware though, if your student takes American History or American Government this year even though he or she is not under requirements for end-of-course state testing he or she will still have to take the end-of-course state exams for these subject matters per Ohio legislative requirements.

**Score Reports:**

Score Reports are mailed home each school year to denote student's performances from the previous year on state end-of-course exams. If you have any questions about your student's performance on any state exams or his or her graduation status please contact our offices at 740-702-2287 and ask for the CHS Guidance Office or Principal Dr. Jeff Fisher.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Fisher  
CHS Principal

The CHS Guidance Office

Jeffrey R. Fisher, Principal

Amanda Cheek, Secretary