

As Introduced

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Representative Adams, J.

**Cosponsors: Representatives Newbold, Burke, Roegner, Butler, Goodwin,
Mecklenborg, Thompson, Hackett, McClain, Combs, Derickson, Slaby,
Uecker, Hayes, McKenney, Young, Wachtmann, Huffman, Hottinger, Maag,
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Bubp, Rosenberger, Buchy, Kozlowski, Landis, Dovilla, Ruhl, Martin, Boose,
Blessing, Gonzales**

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A B I L L

To amend sections 3301.079, 3313.60, and 3313.603 of 1
the Revised Code to include content on specified 2
historical documents in the state academic 3
standards and in the high school American history 4
and government curriculum. 5

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 3301.079, 3313.60, and 3313.603 of 6
the Revised Code be amended to read as follows: 7

Sec. 3301.079. (A)(1) Not later than June 30, 2010, and at 8
least once every five years thereafter, the state board of 9
education shall adopt statewide academic standards with emphasis 10
on coherence, focus, and rigor for each of grades kindergarten 11
through twelve in English language arts, mathematics, science, and 12
social studies. 13

(a) The standards shall specify the following: 14

~~(a)(i)~~ The core academic content and skills that students are expected to know and be able to do at each grade level that will allow each student to be prepared for postsecondary instruction and the workplace for success in the twenty-first century;

~~(b)(ii)~~ The development of skill sets as they relate to creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem solving, and communication and collaboration;

~~(c)(iii)~~ The development of skill sets that promote information, media, and technological literacy;

~~(d)(iv)~~ The development of skill sets that promote personal management, productivity and accountability, and leadership and responsibility;

~~(e)(v)~~ Interdisciplinary, project-based, real-world learning opportunities.

(b) Not later than July 1, 2012, the state board shall incorporate into the social studies standards for grades four to twelve academic content regarding the original texts of the Declaration of Independence, the Northwest Ordinance, the Constitution of the United States with emphasis on the Bill of Rights, and the Ohio Constitution, and the role of these documents in the development of a constitutional republic at the state and federal levels. Not later than March 31, 2013, the state board shall revise the model curricula adopted under division (B) of this section as necessary to reflect the additional academic content. Not later than December 31, 2013, the state board shall revise the achievement assessments adopted under division (C) of this section as necessary to reflect the academic content.

(2) After completing the standards required by division (A)(1) of this section, the state board shall adopt standards and model curricula for instruction in computer literacy, financial literacy and entrepreneurship, fine arts, and foreign language for

grades kindergarten through twelve. The standards shall meet the 46
same requirements prescribed in ~~divisions~~ division (A)(1)(a) ~~to~~ 47
(~~e~~) of this section. 48

(3) The state board shall adopt the most recent standards 49
developed by the national association for sport and physical 50
education for physical education in grades kindergarten through 51
twelve or shall adopt its own standards for physical education in 52
those grades and revise and update them periodically. 53

The department shall employ a full-time physical education 54
coordinator to provide guidance and technical assistance to 55
districts, community schools, and STEM schools in implementing the 56
physical education standards adopted under this division. The 57
superintendent of public instruction shall determine that the 58
person employed as coordinator is qualified for the position, as 59
demonstrated by possessing an adequate combination of education, 60
license, and experience. 61

(4) When academic standards have been completed for any 62
subject area required by this section, the state board shall 63
inform all school districts, all community schools established 64
under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code, all STEM schools 65
established under Chapter 3326. of the Revised Code, and all 66
nonpublic schools required to administer the assessments 67
prescribed by sections 3301.0710 and 3301.0712 of the Revised Code 68
of the content of those standards. 69

(B) Not later than March 31, 2011, the state board shall 70
adopt a model curriculum for instruction in each subject area for 71
which updated academic standards are required by division (A)(1) 72
of this section and for each of grades kindergarten through twelve 73
that is sufficient to meet the needs of students in every 74
community. The model curriculum shall be aligned with the 75
standards, to ensure that the academic content and skills 76
specified for each grade level are taught to students, and shall 77

demonstrate vertical articulation and emphasize coherence, focus, 78
and rigor. When any model curriculum has been completed, the state 79
board shall inform all school districts, community schools, and 80
STEM schools of the content of that model curriculum. 81

All school districts, community schools, and STEM schools may 82
utilize the state standards and the model curriculum established 83
by the state board, together with other relevant resources, 84
examples, or models to ensure that students have the opportunity 85
to attain the academic standards. Upon request, the department of 86
education shall provide technical assistance to any district, 87
community school, or STEM school in implementing the model 88
curriculum. 89

Nothing in this section requires any school district to 90
utilize all or any part of a model curriculum developed under this 91
division. 92

(C) The state board shall develop achievement assessments 93
aligned with the academic standards and model curriculum for each 94
of the subject areas and grade levels required by divisions (A)(1) 95
and (B)(1) of section 3301.0710 of the Revised Code. 96

When any achievement assessment has been completed, the state 97
board shall inform all school districts, community schools, STEM 98
schools, and nonpublic schools required to administer the 99
assessment of its completion, and the department of education 100
shall make the achievement assessment available to the districts 101
and schools. 102

(D)(1) The state board shall adopt a diagnostic assessment 103
aligned with the academic standards and model curriculum for each 104
of grades kindergarten through two in English language arts and 105
mathematics and for grade three in English language arts. The 106
diagnostic assessment shall be designed to measure student 107
comprehension of academic content and mastery of related skills 108

for the relevant subject area and grade level. Any diagnostic 109
assessment shall not include components to identify gifted 110
students. Blank copies of diagnostic assessments shall be public 111
records. 112

(2) When each diagnostic assessment has been completed, the 113
state board shall inform all school districts of its completion 114
and the department of education shall make the diagnostic 115
assessment available to the districts at no cost to the district. 116
School districts shall administer the diagnostic assessment 117
pursuant to section 3301.0715 of the Revised Code beginning the 118
first school year following the development of the assessment. 119

(E) The state board shall not adopt a diagnostic or 120
achievement assessment for any grade level or subject area other 121
than those specified in this section. 122

(F) Whenever the state board or the department of education 123
consults with persons for the purpose of drafting or reviewing any 124
standards, diagnostic assessments, achievement assessments, or 125
model curriculum required under this section, the state board or 126
the department shall first consult with parents of students in 127
kindergarten through twelfth grade and with active Ohio classroom 128
teachers, other school personnel, and administrators with 129
expertise in the appropriate subject area. Whenever practicable, 130
the state board and department shall consult with teachers 131
recognized as outstanding in their fields. 132

If the department contracts with more than one outside entity 133
for the development of the achievement assessments required by 134
this section, the department shall ensure the interchangeability 135
of those assessments. 136

(G) The fairness sensitivity review committee, established by 137
rule of the state board of education, shall not allow any question 138
on any achievement or diagnostic assessment developed under this 139

section or any proficiency test prescribed by former section 140
3301.0710 of the Revised Code, as it existed prior to September 141
11, 2001, to include, be written to promote, or inquire as to 142
individual moral or social values or beliefs. The decision of the 143
committee shall be final. This section does not create a private 144
cause of action. 145

(H) Not later than forty-five days prior to the initial 146
deadline established under division (A)(1) of this section and the 147
deadline established under division (B) of this section, the 148
superintendent of public instruction shall present the academic 149
standards or model curricula, as applicable, to the respective 150
committees of the house of representatives and senate that 151
consider education legislation. 152

(I) As used in this section: 153

(1) "Coherence" means a reflection of the structure of the 154
discipline being taught. 155

(2) "Focus" means limiting the number of items included in a 156
curriculum to allow for deeper exploration of the subject matter. 157

(3) "Rigor" means more challenging and demanding when 158
compared to international standards. 159

(4) "Vertical articulation" means key academic concepts and 160
skills associated with mastery in particular content areas should 161
be articulated and reinforced in a developmentally appropriate 162
manner at each grade level so that over time students acquire a 163
depth of knowledge and understanding in the core academic 164
disciplines. 165

Sec. 3313.60. Notwithstanding division (D) of section 3311.52 166
of the Revised Code, divisions (A) to ~~(E)~~(D) of this section do 167
not apply to any cooperative education school district established 168
pursuant to divisions (A) to (C) of section 3311.52 of the Revised 169

Code.	170
(A) The board of education of each city and exempted village school district, the governing board of each educational service center, and the board of each cooperative education school district established pursuant to section 3311.521 of the Revised Code shall prescribe a curriculum for all schools under their control. Except as provided in division (E) (D) of this section, in any such curriculum there shall be included the study of the following subjects:	171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178
(1) The language arts, including reading, writing, spelling, oral and written English, and literature;	179 180
(2) Geography, the history of the United States and of Ohio, and national, state, and local government in the United States, including a balanced presentation of the relevant contributions to society of men and women of African, Mexican, Puerto Rican, and American Indian descent as well as other ethnic and racial groups in Ohio and the United States;	181 182 183 184 185 186
(3) Mathematics;	187
(4) Natural science, including instruction in the conservation of natural resources;	188 189
(5) Health education, which shall include instruction in:	190
(a) The nutritive value of foods, including natural and organically produced foods, the relation of nutrition to health, and the use and effects of food additives;	191 192 193
(b) The harmful effects of and legal restrictions against the use of drugs of abuse, alcoholic beverages, and tobacco;	194 195
(c) Venereal disease education, except that upon written request of the student's parent or guardian, a student shall be excused from taking instruction in venereal disease education;	196 197 198
(d) In grades kindergarten through six, instruction in	199

personal safety and assault prevention, except that upon written request of the student's parent or guardian, a student shall be excused from taking instruction in personal safety and assault prevention;

(e) In grades seven through twelve, age-appropriate instruction in dating violence prevention education, which shall include instruction in recognizing dating violence warning signs and characteristics of healthy relationships.

In order to assist school districts in developing a dating violence prevention education curriculum, the department of education shall provide on its web site links to free curricula addressing dating violence prevention.

If the parent or legal guardian of a student less than eighteen years of age submits to the principal of the student's school a written request to examine the dating violence prevention instruction materials used at that school, the principal, within a reasonable period of time after the request is made, shall allow the parent or guardian to examine those materials at that school.

(6) Physical education;

(7) The fine arts, including music;

(8) First aid, including a training program in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, safety, and fire prevention, except that upon written request of the student's parent or guardian, a student shall be excused from taking instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

(B) Except as provided in division ~~(E)~~(D) of this section, every school or school district shall include in the requirements for promotion from the eighth grade to the ninth grade one year's course of study of American history. A board may waive this requirement for academically accelerated students who, in accordance with procedures adopted by the board, are able to

demonstrate mastery of essential concepts and skills of the eighth 231
grade American history course of study. 232

(C) ~~Except~~ As specified in divisions (B)(6) and (C)(6) of 233
section 3313.603 of the Revised Code, except as provided in 234
division ~~(E)~~(D) of this section, every high school shall include 235
in the requirements for graduation from any curriculum ~~one~~ 236
one-half unit each of American history and government, ~~including a~~ 237
~~study of the constitutions of the United States and of Ohio.~~ 238

~~(D) Except as provided in division (E) of this section, basic~~ 239
~~instruction in geography, United States history, the government of~~ 240
~~the United States, the government of the state of Ohio, local~~ 241
~~government in Ohio, the Declaration of Independence, the United~~ 242
~~States Constitution, and the Constitution of the state of Ohio~~ 243
~~shall be required before pupils may participate in courses~~ 244
~~involving the study of social problems, economics, foreign~~ 245
~~affairs, United Nations, world government, socialism and~~ 246
~~communism.~~ 247

~~(E)~~ For each cooperative education school district 248
established pursuant to section 3311.521 of the Revised Code and 249
each city, exempted village, and local school district that has 250
territory within such a cooperative district, the curriculum 251
adopted pursuant to divisions (A) to ~~(D)~~(C) of this section shall 252
only include the study of the subjects that apply to the grades 253
operated by each such school district. The curriculums for such 254
schools, when combined, shall provide to each student of these 255
districts all of the subjects required under divisions (A) to 256
~~(D)~~(C) of this section. 257

~~(F)~~(E) The board of education of any cooperative education 258
school district established pursuant to divisions (A) to (C) of 259
section 3311.52 of the Revised Code shall prescribe a curriculum 260
for the subject areas and grade levels offered in any school under 261
its control. 262

~~(G)~~(F) Upon the request of any parent or legal guardian of a student, the board of education of any school district shall permit the parent or guardian to promptly examine, with respect to the parent's or guardian's own child:

(1) Any survey or questionnaire, prior to its administration to the child;

(2) Any textbook, workbook, software, video, or other instructional materials being used by the district in connection with the instruction of the child;

(3) Any completed and graded test taken or survey or questionnaire filled out by the child;

(4) Copies of the statewide academic standards and each model curriculum developed pursuant to section 3301.079 of the Revised Code, which copies shall be available at all times during school hours in each district school building.

Sec. 3313.603. (A) As used in this section:

(1) "One unit" means a minimum of one hundred twenty hours of course instruction, except that for a laboratory course, "one unit" means a minimum of one hundred fifty hours of course instruction.

(2) "One-half unit" means a minimum of sixty hours of course instruction, except that for physical education courses, "one-half unit" means a minimum of one hundred twenty hours of course instruction.

(B) Beginning September 15, 2001, except as required in division (C) of this section and division (C) of section 3313.614 of the Revised Code, the requirements for graduation from every high school shall include twenty units earned in grades nine through twelve and shall be distributed as follows:

(1) English language arts, four units;

(2) Health, one-half unit;	293
(3) Mathematics, three units;	294
(4) Physical education, one-half unit;	295
(5) Science, two units until September 15, 2003, and three units thereafter, which at all times shall include both of the following:	296 297 298
(a) Biological sciences, one unit;	299
(b) Physical sciences, one unit.	300
(6) Social studies, three units <u>History and government, one unit</u> , which shall <u>comply with division (M) of this section and shall</u> include both of the following:	301 302 303
(a) American history, one-half unit;	304
(b) American government, one-half unit.	305
(7) <u>Social studies, two units in accordance with division (N) of this section.</u>	306 307
(8) Elective units, seven units until September 15, 2003, and six units thereafter.	308 309
Each student's electives shall include at least one unit, or two half units, chosen from among the areas of business/technology, fine arts, and/or foreign language.	310 311 312
(C) Beginning with students who enter ninth grade for the first time on or after July 1, 2010, except as provided in divisions (D) to (F) of this section, the requirements for graduation from every public and chartered nonpublic high school shall include twenty units that are designed to prepare students for the workforce and college. The units shall be distributed as follows:	313 314 315 316 317 318 319
(1) English language arts, four units;	320
(2) Health, one-half unit, which shall include instruction in	321

nutrition and the benefits of nutritious foods and physical	322
activity for overall health;	323
(3) Mathematics, four units, which shall include one unit of	324
algebra II or the equivalent of algebra II;	325
(4) Physical education, one-half unit;	326
(5) Science, three units with inquiry-based laboratory	327
experience that engages students in asking valid scientific	328
questions and gathering and analyzing information, which shall	329
include the following, or their equivalent:	330
(a) Physical sciences, one unit;	331
(b) Life sciences, one unit;	332
(c) Advanced study in one or more of the following sciences,	333
one unit:	334
(i) Chemistry, physics, or other physical science;	335
(ii) Advanced biology or other life science;	336
(iii) Astronomy, physical geology, or other earth or space	337
science.	338
(6) Social studies, three units <u>History and government, one</u>	339
<u>unit</u> , which shall <u>comply with division (M) of this section and</u>	340
<u>shall</u> include both of the following:	341
(a) American history, one-half unit;	342
(b) American government, one-half unit.	343
(7) <u>Social studies, two units in accordance with division (N)</u>	344
<u>of this section.</u>	345
Each school shall integrate the study of economics and	346
financial literacy, as expressed in the social studies academic	347
content standards adopted by the state board of education under	348
division (A)(1) of section 3301.079 of the Revised Code and the	349
academic content standards for financial literacy and	350

entrepreneurship adopted under division (A)(2) of that section, 351
into one or more existing social studies credits required under 352
division (C)~~(6)~~(7) of this section, or into the content of another 353
class, so that every high school student receives instruction in 354
those concepts. In developing the curriculum required by this 355
paragraph, schools shall use available public-private partnerships 356
and resources and materials that exist in business, industry, and 357
through the centers for economics education at institutions of 358
higher education in the state. 359

~~(7)~~(8) Five units consisting of one or any combination of 360
foreign language, fine arts, business, career-technical education, 361
family and consumer sciences, technology, agricultural education, 362
a junior reserve officer training corps (JROTC) program approved 363
by the congress of the United States under title 10 of the United 364
States Code, or English language arts, mathematics, science, or 365
social studies courses not otherwise required under division (C) 366
of this section. 367

Ohioans must be prepared to apply increased knowledge and 368
skills in the workplace and to adapt their knowledge and skills 369
quickly to meet the rapidly changing conditions of the 370
twenty-first century. National studies indicate that all high 371
school graduates need the same academic foundation, regardless of 372
the opportunities they pursue after graduation. The goal of Ohio's 373
system of elementary and secondary education is to prepare all 374
students for and seamlessly connect all students to success in 375
life beyond high school graduation, regardless of whether the next 376
step is entering the workforce, beginning an apprenticeship, 377
engaging in post-secondary training, serving in the military, or 378
pursuing a college degree. 379

The Ohio core curriculum is the standard expectation for all 380
students entering ninth grade for the first time at a public or 381
chartered nonpublic high school on or after July 1, 2010. A 382

student may satisfy this expectation through a variety of methods, 383
including, but not limited to, integrated, applied, 384
career-technical, and traditional coursework. 385

Whereas teacher quality is essential for student success in 386
completing the Ohio core curriculum, the general assembly shall 387
appropriate funds for strategic initiatives designed to strengthen 388
schools' capacities to hire and retain highly qualified teachers 389
in the subject areas required by the curriculum. Such initiatives 390
are expected to require an investment of \$120,000,000 over five 391
years. 392

Stronger coordination between high schools and institutions 393
of higher education is necessary to prepare students for more 394
challenging academic endeavors and to lessen the need for academic 395
remediation in college, thereby reducing the costs of higher 396
education for Ohio's students, families, and the state. The state 397
board and the chancellor of the Ohio board of regents shall 398
develop policies to ensure that only in rare instances will 399
students who complete the Ohio core curriculum require academic 400
remediation after high school. 401

School districts, community schools, and chartered nonpublic 402
schools shall integrate technology into learning experiences 403
whenever practicable across the curriculum in order to maximize 404
efficiency, enhance learning, and prepare students for success in 405
the technology-driven twenty-first century. Districts and schools 406
may use distance and web-based course delivery as a method of 407
providing or augmenting all instruction required under this 408
division, including laboratory experience in science. Districts 409
and schools shall whenever practicable utilize technology access 410
and electronic learning opportunities provided by the eTech Ohio 411
commission, the Ohio learning network, education technology 412
centers, public television stations, and other public and private 413
providers. 414

(D) Except as provided in division (E) of this section, a student who enters ninth grade on or after July 1, 2010, and before July 1, 2014, may qualify for graduation from a public or chartered nonpublic high school even though the student has not completed the Ohio core curriculum prescribed in division (C) of this section if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

(1) After the student has attended high school for two years, as determined by the school, the student and the student's parent, guardian, or custodian sign and file with the school a written statement asserting the parent's, guardian's, or custodian's consent to the student's graduating without completing the Ohio core curriculum and acknowledging that one consequence of not completing the Ohio core curriculum is ineligibility to enroll in most state universities in Ohio without further coursework.

(2) The student and parent, guardian, or custodian fulfill any procedural requirements the school stipulates to ensure the student's and parent's, guardian's, or custodian's informed consent and to facilitate orderly filing of statements under division (D)(1) of this section.

(3) The student and the student's parent, guardian, or custodian and a representative of the student's high school jointly develop an individual career plan for the student that specifies the student matriculating to a two-year degree program, acquiring a business and industry credential, or entering an apprenticeship.

(4) The student's high school provides counseling and support for the student related to the plan developed under division (D)(3) of this section during the remainder of the student's high school experience.

(5) The student successfully completes, at a minimum, the curriculum prescribed in division (B) of this section.

The department of education, in collaboration with the 446
chancellor, shall analyze student performance data to determine if 447
there are mitigating factors that warrant extending the exception 448
permitted by division (D) of this section to high school classes 449
beyond those entering ninth grade before July 1, 2014. The 450
department shall submit its findings and any recommendations not 451
later than August 1, 2014, to the speaker and minority leader of 452
the house of representatives, the president and minority leader of 453
the senate, the chairpersons and ranking minority members of the 454
standing committees of the house of representatives and the senate 455
that consider education legislation, the state board of education, 456
and the superintendent of public instruction. 457

(E) Each school district and chartered nonpublic school 458
retains the authority to require an even more rigorous minimum 459
curriculum for high school graduation than specified in division 460
(B) or (C) of this section. A school district board of education, 461
through the adoption of a resolution, or the governing authority 462
of a chartered nonpublic school may stipulate any of the 463
following: 464

(1) A minimum high school curriculum that requires more than 465
twenty units of academic credit to graduate; 466

(2) An exception to the district's or school's minimum high 467
school curriculum that is comparable to the exception provided in 468
division (D) of this section but with additional requirements, 469
which may include a requirement that the student successfully 470
complete more than the minimum curriculum prescribed in division 471
(B) of this section; 472

(3) That no exception comparable to that provided in division 473
(D) of this section is available. 474

(F) A student enrolled in a dropout prevention and recovery 475
program, which program has received a waiver from the department, 476

may qualify for graduation from high school by successfully 477
completing a competency-based instructional program administered 478
by the dropout prevention and recovery program in lieu of 479
completing the Ohio core curriculum prescribed in division (C) of 480
this section. The department shall grant a waiver to a dropout 481
prevention and recovery program, within sixty days after the 482
program applies for the waiver, if the program meets all of the 483
following conditions: 484

(1) The program serves only students not younger than sixteen 485
years of age and not older than twenty-one years of age. 486

(2) The program enrolls students who, at the time of their 487
initial enrollment, either, or both, are at least one grade level 488
behind their cohort age groups or experience crises that 489
significantly interfere with their academic progress such that 490
they are prevented from continuing their traditional programs. 491

(3) The program requires students to attain at least the 492
applicable score designated for each of the assessments prescribed 493
under division (B)(1) of section 3301.0710 of the Revised Code or, 494
to the extent prescribed by rule of the state board under division 495
(E)(6) of section 3301.0712 of the Revised Code, division (B)(2) 496
of that section. 497

(4) The program develops an individual career plan for the 498
student that specifies the student's matriculating to a two-year 499
degree program, acquiring a business and industry credential, or 500
entering an apprenticeship. 501

(5) The program provides counseling and support for the 502
student related to the plan developed under division (F)(4) of 503
this section during the remainder of the student's high school 504
experience. 505

(6) The program requires the student and the student's 506
parent, guardian, or custodian to sign and file, in accordance 507

with procedural requirements stipulated by the program, a written 508
statement asserting the parent's, guardian's, or custodian's 509
consent to the student's graduating without completing the Ohio 510
core curriculum and acknowledging that one consequence of not 511
completing the Ohio core curriculum is ineligibility to enroll in 512
most state universities in Ohio without further coursework. 513

(7) Prior to receiving the waiver, the program has submitted 514
to the department an instructional plan that demonstrates how the 515
academic content standards adopted by the state board under 516
section 3301.079 of the Revised Code will be taught and assessed. 517

If the department does not act either to grant the waiver or 518
to reject the program application for the waiver within sixty days 519
as required under this section, the waiver shall be considered to 520
be granted. 521

(G) Every high school may permit students below the ninth 522
grade to take advanced work. If a high school so permits, it shall 523
award high school credit for successful completion of the advanced 524
work and shall count such advanced work toward the graduation 525
requirements of division (B) or (C) of this section if the 526
advanced work was both: 527

(1) Taught by a person who possesses a license or certificate 528
issued under section 3301.071, 3319.22, or 3319.222 of the Revised 529
Code that is valid for teaching high school; 530

(2) Designated by the board of education of the city, local, 531
or exempted village school district, the board of the cooperative 532
education school district, or the governing authority of the 533
chartered nonpublic school as meeting the high school curriculum 534
requirements. 535

Each high school shall record on the student's high school 536
transcript all high school credit awarded under division (G) of 537
this section. In addition, if the student completed a seventh- or 538

eighth-grade fine arts course described in division (K) of this 539
section and the course qualified for high school credit under that 540
division, the high school shall record that course on the 541
student's high school transcript. 542

(H) The department shall make its individual academic career 543
plan available through its Ohio career information system web site 544
for districts and schools to use as a tool for communicating with 545
and providing guidance to students and families in selecting high 546
school courses. 547

(I) Units earned in English language arts, mathematics, 548
science, and social studies that are delivered through integrated 549
academic and career-technical instruction are eligible to meet the 550
graduation requirements of division (B) or (C) of this section. 551

(J) The state board, in consultation with the chancellor, 552
shall adopt a statewide plan implementing methods for students to 553
earn units of high school credit based on a demonstration of 554
subject area competency, instead of or in combination with 555
completing hours of classroom instruction. The state board shall 556
adopt the plan not later than March 31, 2009, and commence phasing 557
in the plan during the 2009-2010 school year. The plan shall 558
include a standard method for recording demonstrated proficiency 559
on high school transcripts. Each school district, community 560
school, and chartered nonpublic school shall comply with the state 561
board's plan adopted under this division and award units of high 562
school credit in accordance with the plan. The state board may 563
adopt existing methods for earning high school credit based on a 564
demonstration of subject area competency as necessary prior to the 565
2009-2010 school year. 566

(K) This division does not apply to students who qualify for 567
graduation from high school under division (D) or (F) of this 568
section, or to students pursuing a career-technical instructional 569
track as determined by the school district board of education or 570

the chartered nonpublic school's governing authority. 571
Nevertheless, the general assembly encourages such students to 572
consider enrolling in a fine arts course as an elective. 573

Beginning with students who enter ninth grade for the first 574
time on or after July 1, 2010, each student enrolled in a public 575
or chartered nonpublic high school shall complete two semesters or 576
the equivalent of fine arts to graduate from high school. The 577
coursework may be completed in any of grades seven to twelve. Each 578
student who completes a fine arts course in grade seven or eight 579
may elect to count that course toward the five units of electives 580
required for graduation under division (C)~~(7)~~(8) of this section, 581
if the course satisfied the requirements of division (G) of this 582
section. In that case, the high school shall award the student 583
high school credit for the course and count the course toward the 584
five units required under division (C)~~(7)~~(8) of this section. If 585
the course in grade seven or eight did not satisfy the 586
requirements of division (G) of this section, the high school 587
shall not award the student high school credit for the course but 588
shall count the course toward the two semesters or the equivalent 589
of fine arts required by this division. 590

(L) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this section, 591
the board of education of each school district and the governing 592
authority of each chartered nonpublic school may adopt a policy to 593
excuse from the high school physical education requirement each 594
student who, during high school, has participated in 595
interscholastic athletics, marching band, or cheerleading for at 596
least two full seasons or in the junior reserve officer training 597
corps for at least two full school years. If the board or 598
authority adopts such a policy, the board or authority shall not 599
require the student to complete any physical education course as a 600
condition to graduate. However, the student shall be required to 601
complete one-half unit, consisting of at least sixty hours of 602

instruction, in another course of study. In the case of a student 603
who has participated in the junior reserve officer training corps 604
for at least two full school years, credit received for that 605
participation may be used to satisfy the requirement to complete 606
one-half unit in another course of study. 607

(M) Beginning with students who enter ninth grade for the 608
first time on or after July 1, 2010, the study of American history 609
and American government required by divisions (B)(6) and (C)(6) of 610
this section shall include the study of all of the following 611
documents for a cumulative period of time equivalent to at least 612
one-fourth unit: 613

(1) The Declaration of Independence; 614

(2) The Northwest Ordinance; 615

(3) The Constitution of the United States with emphasis on 616
the Bill of Rights; 617

(4) The Ohio Constitution. 618

The study of each of the documents prescribed in divisions 619
(M)(1) to (3) of this section shall include study of that document 620
in its original eighteenth-century context. 621

The study of American history and government required by 622
divisions (B)(6) and (C)(6) of this section shall include the 623
historical evidence of the role of documents such as the 624
Federalist Papers and the Anti-Federalist Papers to firmly 625
establish the historical background leading to the establishment 626
of the provisions of the Constitution and Bill of Rights by the 627
founding fathers for the purpose of safeguarding our 628
constitutional republic. 629

(N) Before students may participate in courses involving the 630
study of social problems, economics, foreign affairs, the United 631
Nations, world history and government, socialism, and communism, 632

they first shall complete basic instruction in geography, United 633
States history, the government of the United States, the 634
government of the state of Ohio, local government in Ohio, the 635
Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and 636
the Constitution of the state of Ohio. 637

Section 2. That existing sections 3301.079, 3313.60, and 638
3313.603 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 639