
East Providence High School

Proficiency Based Graduation Requirements

Class of 2011

Handbook for Parents



East Providence High School Mission Statement

The East Providence High School community believes that excellence in education is the pathway to the future. Our goal is to instill a passion for learning and a sense of responsibility in all students. Teachers working with families ensure that every student's transition to society is personal and meaningful. Students, administrators, faculty, and staff are part of a culture promoting a safe environment to explore new ideas, meet new challenges, respect diversity and contribute to the community.

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Introduction

Beginning with the Class of 2008, East Providence High School (EPHS) has chosen to establish a "Graduation Portfolio" and "Senior Project" requirement as the two methods of fulfilling the "Graduation by Proficiency" mandate set in place by the Rhode Island Department of Education.

Upon successful completion of both requirements, students' will have attained proficiency in a myriad of areas relating to Grade Span Expectations, Expectations for student learning and SCANS skills. Our goal at EPHS, is to have students attain the forty (40) necessary proficiency skills as many times as possible each year during the high school experience.

All Rhode Island high schools must meet the guidelines set by the new RI Diploma System. East Providence High School has accepted Graduation Portfolio and Senior Project/Exhibition as the two areas to measure proficiency for graduation. Successfully completing a "Graduation Portfolio" and a "Senior Project" are mandatory graduation requirements.

Graduation Requirements

Class of 2011

Successful Completion of:

- **24 Carnegie Units**
- **Electronic Portfolio**
- **Senior Project**
- **New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP)**
- **6 Hours annually Service to the Community**

What are Carnegie Units?

Carnegie units are secondary-school units, each of which represents one year of work in a subject. The twenty-four (24) required Carnegie units needed to attain graduation status are as follows:

- English-Language Arts 4 *
- Mathematics 4 *
- Science 3 * (Physics, Chemistry, Biology)
- Social Studies 3 *(Civics or World History and US History)
- Physical Education/Health 4
- Technology 1+*
- Arts 1+* (Fine Art or Music)

* Denotes proficiency requirement (see attached document).

Note: The NECAP Assessment results will count as 1 test grade in grade 11 ELA, math, and Chemistry for 4th quarter. It may not represent more than 10% of a student's 4th quarter average. Exceeds Standard—100, Achieves Standard—85, Nearly Achieves Standard—70, and Did not attempt—0.

What is Electronic Portfolio?

Each student in the class of 2011 will be required to complete an electronic portfolio as part of the graduation requirement. The purpose of electronic portfolio is to allow students upload their best works in an effort to collect an authentic compilation of the four-year high school experience.

Each subject area has created two portfolio activity assignments which will be implemented during the school year. This process will ensure that every student has the opportunity to complete two to four course-related assignments per class. A minimum of fourteen entries are required for each school year.

Students will also have the ability to access assignments on the E-Portfolio website. They will also be able to access the portfolio worksheets, skills sheets and portfolio activities sheets on the East Providence High School Web site: <http://eastprovidencehighschool.com> located in the portfolio folder.

Portfolio is a graduation requirement. Students must complete at least seven portfolio entries by the completion of second quarter. Please refer to the section noted on the report card for portfolio to determine if your child has completed the requirement. If the fourteen portfolio entries are not completed by the end of each school year, students will be required to attend summer school.

Senior Project

The Senior Project provides students with the opportunity to conduct an in-depth exploration of personal interests and demonstrate skills that have been acquired during the high school experience that have been deemed necessary to meet the challenges of post-secondary education and future employment. Senior Project is a five-step process focusing on a particular field of study. It consists of:

- Research paper
 - Three to five pages in length
 - Internship log
 - Reflective essay
- Internship
 - Fifteen hours (minimum) of contact with a mentor
 - Log journal
- Project/Product
 - Display of what the student has learned
- Portfolio
 - Collection of documented evidence, to include research paper depicting the entire Senior Project process.
- Presentation/exhibition.
 - Eight to ten minute presentation to judges
 - Includes project/product demonstration
 - Question and answer session

Senior Project is a mandated graduation requirement. Every senior student must successfully complete the senior project in order to graduate.

Acknowledgements

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