

SENATE BILL NO. 614

October 16, 2025, Introduced by Senator DAMOOSE and referred to Committee on Education.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled
"The revised school code,"
by amending sections 1278a, 1278b, and 1531f (MCL 380.1278a,
380.1278b, and 380.1531f), sections 1278a and 1278b as amended by
2022 PA 105 and section 1531f as added by 2010 PA 168.

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:

1 (a) Has successfully completed all of the following credit
2 requirements of the Michigan merit standard before graduating from
3 high school:

4 (i) At least 4 credits in mathematics that are aligned with
5 subject area content expectations developed by the department and
6 approved by the state board under section 1278b, including
7 completion of at least algebra I, geometry, and algebra II, or an
8 integrated sequence of this course content that consists of 3
9 credits, and an additional mathematics credit, such as
10 trigonometry, statistics, precalculus, calculus, applied math,
11 accounting, business math, a retake of algebra II, or, for only
12 pupils entering grade 8 before 2023, a course in financial literacy
13 as described in section 1165. A pupil may complete algebra II over
14 2 years with 2 credits awarded or over 1.5 years with 1.5 credits
15 awarded for the purposes of this section and section 1278b. A pupil
16 also may partially or fully fulfill the algebra II requirement by
17 completing a department-approved formal career and technical
18 education program or curriculum, such as a program or curriculum in
19 electronics, machining, construction, welding, engineering,
20 computer science, or renewable energy, and in that program or
21 curriculum successfully completing the same content as the algebra
22 II benchmarks assessed on the department-prescribed state high
23 school assessment, as determined by the department. The department
24 shall post on its website guidelines for implementation of the
25 immediately preceding sentence. Each pupil must successfully
26 complete at least 1 mathematics course during ~~his or her~~ **the**
27 **pupil's** final year of high school enrollment. This subparagraph
28 does not require completion of mathematics courses in any
29 particular sequence.

(ii) At least 3 credits in social science 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 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

1 arts courses.

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

3 (b) Meets the online course or learning experience requirement
4 of this subsection. A school district or public school academy
5 shall provide the basic level of technology and internet access
6 required by the state board to complete the online course or
7 learning experience. For a pupil to meet this requirement, the
8 pupil must meet either of the following, as determined by the
9 school district or public school academy:

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

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

17 (2) ~~Except as otherwise provided in this section, and in~~
18 ~~addition to the requirements under subsection (1), the board of a~~
19 ~~school district or board of directors of a public school academy~~
20 ~~shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil~~
21 ~~has successfully completed during grades K to 12 at least 2-3~~
22 ~~credits that are grade-appropriate in a language other than English~~
23 ~~or course work or other learning experiences that are substantially~~
24 ~~equivalent to 2 credits in a language other than English, based on~~
25 ~~guidelines developed by the department. A pupil may partially or~~
26 ~~fully fulfill 1 credit of this requirement by completing a~~
27 ~~department-approved formal career and technical education program~~
28 ~~or curriculum or by completing visual or performing arts~~
29 ~~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 in a language other than English in grades K to 6. For the purposes of this subsection, both of the following apply:~~

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

~~(b) The pupil may meet all or part of this requirement with online course work.~~ **life skills. The credits in life skills required under this subsection may be fulfilled through a department-approved career and technical education program or curriculum or through completion of courses in any of the following:**

(a) A language other than English.

(b) Fine arts.

(3) Beginning with pupils entering grade 8 in 2023, 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 completes a 1/2 credit course in personal finance 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 personal finance must fulfill 1/2 credit of mathematics required under subsection (1) (a) (i), **or** 1/2 credit of visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts required under subsection (1) (a) (iv), ~~or 1/2 credit of a language other than English required under subsection (2),~~ as determined by the board of the school district or board of directors of the public school academy in which the pupil is enrolled. The 1/2 credit course in personal finance required under this subsection may be fulfilled through a department-approved formal career and technical education program

1 or curriculum that aligns with the subject area content
2 expectations developed by the department and approved by the state
3 board for the credit under section 1278b.

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

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

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

22 (b) A school district or public school academy shall base its
23 determination of whether a pupil has successfully completed the
24 subject area content expectations or guidelines developed by the
25 department that apply to a credit at least in part on the pupil's
26 performance on assessments developed or selected by the department
27 or on 1 or more assessments developed or selected by the school
28 district or public school academy that measure a pupil's
29 understanding of the subject area content expectations or

1 guidelines that apply to the credit.

2 (c) A school district or public school academy shall also
3 grant a pupil a credit if the pupil earns a qualifying score, as
4 determined by the department, on assessments developed or selected
5 for the subject area by the department or the pupil earns a
6 qualifying score, as determined by the school district or public
7 school academy, on 1 or more assessments developed or selected by
8 the school district or public school academy that measure a pupil's
9 understanding of the subject area content expectations or
10 guidelines that apply to the credit.

11 (6) If a high school is designated by the superintendent of
12 public instruction as a specialty school and the high school meets
13 the requirements of subsection (7), the pupils of the high school
14 are not required to successfully complete the 4 credits in English
15 language arts required under section 1278b(1)(a) or the 3 credits
16 in social science required under subsection (1)(a)(ii) and the
17 school district or public school academy is not required to ensure
18 that each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for meeting
19 those English language arts or social science credit requirements.
20 The superintendent of public instruction may designate up to 15
21 high schools that meet the requirements of this subsection as
22 specialty schools. Subject to this maximum number, the
23 superintendent of public instruction shall designate a high school
24 as a specialty school if the superintendent of public instruction
25 finds that the high school meets all of the following criteria:

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

28 (b) The high school uses a specialized, innovative, and
29 rigorous curriculum in such areas as performing arts, foreign

1 language, extensive use of internships, or other learning
2 innovations that conform to pioneering innovations among other
3 leading national or international high schools.

4 (7) A high school that is designated by the superintendent of
5 public instruction as a specialty school under subsection (6) is
6 only exempt from requirements as described under subsection (6) as
7 long as the superintendent of public instruction finds that the
8 high school continues to meet all of the following requirements:

9 (a) The high school clearly states to prospective pupils and
10 their parents that it does not meet the requirements of the
11 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278b but is
12 a designated specialty school that is exempt from some of those
13 requirements and that a pupil who enrolls in the high school and
14 subsequently transfers to a high school that is not a specialty
15 school meeting the requirements of this subsection will be required
16 to comply with the requirements of the Michigan merit standard
17 under this section and section 1278b.

18 (b) For the most recent year for which the data are available,
19 the mean scores on both the mathematics and science portions of the
20 applicable state assessment for the pupils of the high school
21 exceed by at least 10% the mean scores on the mathematics and
22 science portions of the applicable state assessment for the pupils
23 of the school district in which the greatest number of the pupils
24 of the high school reside.

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

28 (d) For the most recent year for which the data are available,
29 at least 75% of the pupils who graduated from the high school the

1 preceding year are enrolled in a postsecondary institution.

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

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

12 Sec. 1278b. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section
13 or section 1278a, as part of the requirements under section 1278a
14 the board of a school district or board of directors of a public
15 school academy shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil
16 unless the pupil has successfully completed all of the following
17 credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard before
18 graduating from high school:

19 (a) At least 4 credits in English language arts that are
20 aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the
21 department and approved by the state board under this section.

22 (b) At least 3 credits in science that are aligned with
23 subject area content expectations developed by the department and
24 approved by the state board under this section, including
25 completion of at least biology and either chemistry, physics,
26 anatomy, or agricultural science, or successfully completing a
27 program or curriculum that provides the same content as the
28 chemistry or physics benchmarks, as determined by the department. A
29 student may fulfill the requirement for the third science credit by

1 completing a department-approved computer science program or
2 curriculum or formal career and technical education program or
3 curriculum. The legislature strongly encourages pupils to complete
4 a fourth credit in science, such as forensics, astronomy, Earth
5 science, agricultural science, environmental science, geology,
6 physics, chemistry, physiology, or microbiology.

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

9 (2) If a pupil successfully completes 1 or more of the high
10 school credits required under subsection (1) or under section
11 1278a(1) or (3) before entering high school, the pupil must be
12 given high school credit for that credit.

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

15 (a) Develop subject area content expectations that apply to
16 the credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are
17 required under subsection (1)(a) and (b) and section 1278a(1)(a)(i)
18 and (ii) and the 1/2 credit course in personal finance required
19 under section 1278a(3) and develop guidelines for the remaining
20 credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are
21 required under this section and section 1278a(1)(a), for the online
22 course or learning experience required under section 1278a(1)(b),
23 and for the requirements for ~~a language other than English~~ **life**
24 **skills** under section 1278a(2). All of the following apply to these
25 subject area content expectations and guidelines:

26 (i) All subject area content expectations must be consistent
27 with the state board recommended model core academic curriculum
28 content standards under section 1278. Subject area content
29 expectations or guidelines must not include attitudes, beliefs, or

1 value systems that are not essential in the legal, economic, and
2 social structure of our society and to the personal and social
3 responsibility of citizens of our society. The subject area content
4 expectations must require pupils to demonstrate critical thinking
5 skills.

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

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

11 (iv) The department shall complete the development of the
12 subject area content expectations that apply to algebra I and the
13 guidelines for the online course or learning experience under
14 section 1278a(1)(b) not later than August 1, 2006.

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

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

27 (vii) Until all of the subject area content expectations and
28 guidelines have been developed by the department and approved by
29 the state board, the department shall submit a report at least

1 every 6 months to the senate and house standing committees
2 responsible for education legislation on the status of the
3 development of the subject area content expectations and
4 guidelines. The report must detail any failure by the department to
5 meet a deadline established under subparagraph (iv) or (v) and the
6 reasons for that failure.

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

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

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

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

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

16 (D) Representatives from the business community.

17 (E) Representatives from vocational and career and technical
18 education providers.

19 (F) Government officials, including officials from the
20 legislature.

21 (G) Parents of public school pupils.

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

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

29 (c) Determine the basic level of technology and internet

1 access required for pupils to complete the online course or
2 learning experience requirement of section 1278a(1)(b), and submit
3 that determination to the state board for approval.

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

9 (4) The state board shall approve subject area content
10 expectations and guidelines developed by the department under
11 subsection (3) before those subject area content expectations and
12 guidelines may take effect. The state board also shall approve the
13 basic level of technology and internet access required for pupils
14 to complete the online course or learning experience requirement of
15 section 1278a(1)(b).

16 (5) The parent or legal guardian of a pupil who has completed
17 grade 9, a teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who
18 currently teaches in or whose expertise is in a subject area
19 proposed to be modified by the personal curriculum, or who is
20 determined by the principal to have qualifications otherwise
21 relevant to developing a personal curriculum, or a school counselor
22 or school employee qualified to act in a counseling role under
23 section 1233 or 1233a may request a personal curriculum under this
24 subsection for the pupil that modifies certain of the Michigan
25 merit standard requirements under subsection (1) or section
26 1278a(1)(a). If the request for a personal curriculum is made by
27 the pupil's parent or legal guardian or, if the pupil is at least
28 age 18 or is an emancipated minor, by the pupil, the school
29 district or public school academy shall develop a personal

1 curriculum for the pupil. A teacher, school counselor, or school
2 employee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233
3 or 1233a may contact a pupil's parent or legal guardian to discuss
4 the possibility and potential benefits of a personal curriculum
5 under this subsection for the pupil. If all of the requirements
6 under this subsection for completing a personal curriculum are met,
7 then the board of a school district or board of directors of a
8 public school academy may award a high school diploma to a pupil
9 who successfully completes his or her personal curriculum even if
10 it does not meet the requirements of the Michigan merit standard
11 required under subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a). All of the
12 following apply to a personal curriculum:

13 (a) The personal curriculum must be developed by a group that
14 includes at least the pupil, at least 1 of the pupil's parents or
15 the pupil's legal guardian, and a teacher described in this
16 subdivision or the pupil's high school counselor or another
17 designee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233
18 or 1233a selected by the high school principal. In addition, for a
19 pupil who receives special education services, a school
20 psychologist should also be included in this group. The teacher
21 included in the group developing the personal curriculum must be a
22 teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who currently teaches
23 in or whose expertise is in a subject area being modified by the
24 personal curriculum, or who is determined by the principal to have
25 qualifications otherwise relevant to the group. This subdivision
26 does not require an in-person meeting of the group.

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

28 (i) Incorporate as much of the subject area content
29 expectations of the Michigan merit standard required under

1 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a) as is practicable for the
2 pupil.

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

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

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

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

13 (d) The pupil's parent or legal guardian shall communicate
14 with each of the pupil's teachers to monitor the pupil's progress
15 toward the goals contained in the pupil's personal curriculum.

16 (e) Revisions may be made in the personal curriculum if the
17 revisions are developed and agreed to in the same manner as the
18 original personal curriculum.

19 (f) The English language arts credit requirements of
20 subsection (1)(a) and the science credit requirements of subsection
21 (1)(b) are not subject to modification as part of a personal
22 curriculum under this subsection.

23 (g) The mathematics credit requirements of section
24 1278a(1)(a)(i) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum if
25 the pupil successfully completes at least 3-1/2 total credits of
26 the mathematics credits required under that section before
27 completing high school, including algebra I and geometry, and
28 successfully completes at least 1 mathematics credit during ~~his or~~
29 ~~her~~ **the pupil's** final 2 years of high school. The algebra II credit

1 required under that section may be modified as part of a personal
2 curriculum under this subsection if the pupil meets 1 or more of
3 the following:

4 (i) Successfully completes the same content as 1 semester of
5 algebra II, as determined by the department.

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

9 (iii) Enrolls in a formal career and technical education program
10 or curriculum and in that program or curriculum successfully
11 completes the same content as the algebra II benchmarks assessed on
12 the department-prescribed state high school assessment, as
13 determined by the department.

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

16 (h) The social science credit requirements of section
17 1278a(1)(a)(ii) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum
18 only if all of the following are met:

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

22 (ii) The modification requires the pupil to complete 1
23 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or science
24 or 1 additional credit in a language other than English, or
25 requires the pupil to complete a formal career and technical
26 education program. This additional credit must be in addition to
27 the number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1)
28 and section 1278a(1). ~~or under section 1278a(2).~~

29 (i) The health and physical education credit requirement under

1 section 1278a(1) (a) *(iii)* may be modified as part of a personal
2 curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil to complete
3 1 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or
4 science or 1 additional credit in a language other than English, or
5 requires the pupil to complete a formal career and technical
6 education program. This additional credit must be in addition to
7 the number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1)
8 and section 1278a(1). ~~or under section 1278a(2).~~

9 (j) The visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts credit
10 requirement under section 1278a(1) (a) *(iv)* may be modified as part of
11 a personal curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil
12 to complete 1 additional credit in English language arts,
13 mathematics, or science or 1 additional credit in a language other
14 than English, or requires the pupil to complete a formal career and
15 technical education program. This additional credit must be in
16 addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under
17 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1). ~~or under section 1278a(2).~~

18 (k) If the parent or legal guardian of a pupil requests as
19 part of the pupil's personal curriculum a modification of the
20 Michigan merit standard requirements that would not otherwise be
21 allowed under this section and demonstrates that the modification
22 is necessary because the pupil is a child with a disability, the
23 school district or public school academy may allow that additional
24 modification to the extent necessary because of the pupil's
25 disability if the group under subdivision (a) determines that the
26 modification is consistent with both the pupil's educational
27 development plan under subsection (11) and the pupil's
28 individualized education program. If the superintendent of public
29 instruction has reason to believe that a school district or a

1 public school academy is allowing modifications inconsistent with
2 the requirements of this subdivision, the superintendent of public
3 instruction shall monitor the school district or public school
4 academy to ensure that the school district's or public school
5 academy's policies, procedures, and practices are in compliance
6 with the requirements for additional modifications under this
7 subdivision. As used in this subdivision, "child with a disability"
8 means that term as defined in 20 USC 1401.

9 (l) If a pupil transfers to a school district or public school
10 academy from out of state or from a nonpublic school, the pupil's
11 parent or legal guardian may request, as part of the pupil's
12 personal curriculum, a modification of the Michigan merit standard
13 requirements that would not otherwise be allowed under this
14 section. The school district or public school academy may allow
15 this additional modification for a transfer pupil if all of the
16 following are met:

17 (i) The transfer pupil has successfully completed at least the
18 equivalent of 2 years of high school credit out of state or at a
19 nonpublic school. The school district or public school academy may
20 use appropriate assessment examinations to determine what credits,
21 if any, the pupil has earned out of state or at a nonpublic school
22 that may be used to satisfy the curricular requirements of the
23 Michigan merit standard and this subdivision.

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

27 (iii) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum requires the
28 pupil to successfully complete at least 1 mathematics course during
29 ~~his or her~~ **the pupil's** final year of high school enrollment. In

1 addition, if the transfer pupil is enrolled in the school district
2 or public school academy for at least 1 full school year, both of
3 the following apply:

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

6 (B) If the transfer pupil demonstrates that he or she has
7 mastered the content of algebra I, the transfer pupil's personal
8 curriculum must require that this mathematics course is a course
9 normally taken after completing algebra I.

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

12 (m) If a pupil is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor,
13 the pupil may act on his or her own behalf under this subsection.

14 (n) This subsection does not apply to a pupil enrolled in a
15 high school that is designated as a specialty school under section
16 1278a(6) and that is exempt under that section from the English
17 language arts requirement under subsection (1)(a) and the social
18 science credit requirement under section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

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

23 (p) A school district or public school academy annually shall
24 notify each of its pupils and a parent or legal guardian of each of
25 its pupils that all pupils are entitled to a personal curriculum
26 under this subsection. The annual notice must include an
27 explanation of what a personal curriculum is and state that if a
28 personal curriculum is requested, the public school or public
29 school academy will grant that request. The school district or

1 public school academy shall provide this annual notice to parents
2 and legal guardians by sending a written notice to each pupil's
3 home or by including the notice in a newsletter, student handbook,
4 or similar communication that is sent to a pupil's home, and also
5 shall post the notice on the school district's or public school
6 academy's website.

7 (6) If a pupil receives special education services, the
8 pupil's individualized education program, in accordance with the
9 individuals with disabilities education act, title VI of Public Law
10 91-230, must identify the appropriate course or courses of study
11 and identify the supports, accommodations, and modifications
12 necessary to allow the pupil to progress in the curricular
13 requirements of this section and section 1278a, or in a personal
14 curriculum as provided under subsection (5), and meet the
15 requirements for a high school diploma.

16 (7) The board of a school district or board of directors of a
17 public school academy that operates a high school shall ensure that
18 each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for the pupil to
19 meet the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a.
20 The board or board of directors may provide this curriculum by
21 providing the credits specified in this section and section 1278a,
22 by using alternative instructional delivery methods such as
23 alternative course work, humanities course sequences, career and
24 technical education, industrial technology courses, or vocational
25 education, or by a combination of these. School districts and
26 public school academies that operate career and technical education
27 programs are encouraged to integrate the credit requirements of
28 this section and section 1278a into those programs.

29 (8) If the board of a school district or board of directors of

1 a public school academy wants its high school to be accredited
2 under section 1280, the board or board of directors shall ensure
3 that all elements of the curriculum required under this section and
4 section 1278a are made available to all affected pupils. If a
5 school district or public school academy does not offer all of the
6 required credits, the board of the school district or board of
7 directors of the public school academy shall ensure that the pupil
8 has access to the required credits by another means, such as
9 enrollment in a postsecondary course under the postsecondary
10 enrollment options act, 1996 PA 160, MCL 388.511 to 388.524;
11 enrollment in an online course; a cooperative arrangement with a
12 neighboring school district or with a public school academy; or
13 granting approval under section 6(6) of the state school aid act of
14 1979, MCL 388.1606, for the pupil to be counted in membership in
15 another school district.

16 (9) If a pupil is not successfully completing a credit
17 required for graduation under this section and section 1278a, or is
18 identified as being at risk of withdrawing from high school, then
19 the pupil's school district or public school academy shall notify
20 the pupil's parent or legal guardian or, if the pupil is at least
21 age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the pupil, of the availability
22 of tutoring or other supplemental educational support and
23 counseling services that may be available to the pupil under
24 existing state or federal programs, such as those programs or
25 services available under section 31a of the state school aid act of
26 1979, MCL 388.1631a, or under the no child left behind act of 2001,
27 Public Law 107-110, or every student succeeds act, Public Law 114-
28 95.

29 (10) To the extent required by the no child left behind act of

2001, Public Law 107-110, or every student succeeds act, Public Law 114-95, the board of a school district or public school academy shall ensure that all components of the curricular requirements under this section and section 1278a are taught by highly qualified teachers. If a school district or public school academy demonstrates to the department that the school district or public school academy is unable to meet the requirements of this section because the school district or public school academy is unable to hire enough highly qualified teachers, the department shall work with the school district or public school academy to develop a plan to allow the school district or public school academy to hire enough highly qualified teachers to meet the requirements of this section.

(11) The board of a school district or board of directors of a public school academy shall provide the opportunity for each pupil to develop an educational development plan during grade 7, and shall ensure that each pupil reviews his or her educational development plan during grade 8 and revises it as appropriate before he or she begins high school. The board of a school district or board of directors of a public school academy shall also ensure that each pupil reviews and revises his or her educational development plan as appropriate during each year of high school. An educational development plan must be developed, reviewed, and revised by the pupil under the supervision of the pupil's school counselor or another designee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233 or 1233a selected by the school principal and must be based on high school readiness scores and a career pathways program or similar career exploration program. An educational development plan must be designed to assist pupils to identify

1 career development goals as they relate to academic requirements.
2 During the process of developing and reviewing a pupil's
3 educational development plan, the pupil must be advised that many
4 of the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a
5 may be fulfilled through career and technical education. In
6 addition, during the process of developing and reviewing an
7 educational development plan, the pupil must be provided with all
8 of the following:

9 (a) Information on various types of careers and current and
10 projected job openings in this state and those jobs' actual and
11 projected wages.

12 (b) An opportunity to explore careers specific to a pupil's
13 interests and identify career pathways and goals for achieving
14 success in those careers, including, but not limited to, the level
15 and type of educational preparation necessary to accomplish those
16 goals.

17 (c) An opportunity to develop a talent portfolio. A talent
18 portfolio must be developed and revised throughout the
19 implementation of a pupil's educational development plan. A talent
20 portfolio must include, but is not limited to, a record of the
21 pupil's experiences, proficiencies, certifications, or
22 accomplishments that demonstrate talents or marketable skills. The
23 department, in conjunction with the department of labor and
24 economic opportunity, shall develop and make available to the
25 public schools model information materials that districts or public
26 school academies may use to comply with this subdivision.

27 (12) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if a
28 school district or public school academy is unable to implement all
29 of the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a

1 for pupils entering grade 9 in 2007 or is unable to implement
2 another requirement of this section or section 1278a, the school
3 district or public school academy may apply to the department for
4 permission to phase in 1 or more of the requirements of this
5 section or section 1278a. To apply, the school district or public
6 school academy shall submit a proposed phase-in plan to the
7 department. The department shall approve a phase-in plan if the
8 department determines that the plan will result in the school
9 district or public school academy making satisfactory progress
10 toward full implementation of the requirements of this section and
11 section 1278a. If the department disapproves a proposed phase-in
12 plan, the department shall work with the school district or public
13 school academy to develop a satisfactory plan that may be approved.
14 This subsection does not apply to a high school that is designated
15 as a specialty school under section 1278a(6) and that is exempt
16 under that section from the English language arts requirement under
17 subsection (1)(a) and the social science credit requirement under
18 section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

19 (13) This section and section 1278a do not prohibit a pupil
20 from satisfying or exceeding the credit requirements of the
21 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278a
22 through advanced studies such as accelerated course placement,
23 advanced placement, dual enrollment in a postsecondary institution,
24 or participation in the international baccalaureate program or an
25 early college/middle college program.

26 (14) Not later than April 1 of each year, the department shall
27 submit an annual report to the legislature that evaluates the
28 overall success of the curriculum required under this section and
29 section 1278a, the rigor and relevance of the course work required

1 by the curriculum, the ability of public schools to implement the
2 curriculum and the required course work, and the impact of the
3 curriculum on pupil success, and that details any activities the
4 department has undertaken to implement this section and section
5 1278a or to assist public schools in implementing the requirements
6 of this section and section 1278a.

7 Sec. 1531f. (1) The department may enter into a memorandum of
8 understanding with a federally recognized Native American tribe,
9 the board of a school district, or the board of directors of a
10 public school academy that authorizes the superintendent of public
11 instruction to issue a 3-year letter of approval or continuing
12 approval to allow the Native American tribe, school district, or
13 public school academy to use **noncertificated** teachers ~~who do not~~
14 ~~possess a valid Michigan teaching certificate~~ to teach a Native
15 American tribal language and culture class. A memorandum of
16 understanding entered into under this section ~~shall~~ **must** require
17 that a noncertificated teacher has demonstrated mastery of the
18 tribal language either through a credential issued by a federally
19 recognized Native American tribe or another means considered
20 suitable by the department. The memorandum ~~of agreement shall~~ **must**
21 include requirements for renewal or continuing approval of the
22 noncertificated teacher as established by the Native American
23 tribe, the board of the school district, or the board of directors
24 of the public school academy in collaboration with the department.

25 (2) Credits earned by a pupil in a Native American tribal
26 language taught by a noncertificated teacher ~~pursuant to~~ **under** this
27 section may be applied by the Native American tribe, school
28 district, or public school academy for any purpose to the same
29 extent as if taught by a certificated teacher. ~~, including, but not~~

- 1 ~~limited to, credit toward completion of the credit requirements~~
- 2 ~~under section 1278a concerning a language other than English.~~