

**To: Members of the State Board of  
Education & Early Development**

**June 10 2021**

**From: Michael Johnson, Commissioner**

**Agenda Item: 6**

**◆ ISSUE**

The board is being asked to approve recommended adjustments to the Mt. Edgecumbe High School credit requirements. The recommendations do not adjust the total number of credits but do expand the classes that can be taken for specific requirements.

**◆ BACKGROUND**

- Last year MEHS shifted to a 12 week rotation. The shift provide more instructional time for all core courses and an opportunity for 0.5 credit course options not available in the previous system.
- For many required courses (non-elective), this included an increase in the expected time for each requirement. This was a preferred result for most classes (Biology, US History etc.). For some requirements, the additional time opens doors for additional options.
- The following items can be found behind this cover memo:
  - Credit Adjustment Recommendations from MEHS Advisory Board
  - Graduation Requirements Recommendations from MEHS Advisory Board
- There are three credit requirements that may need adjusting.
  - The existing “technology credit” that was put in place when computers were new to the education environment previously only accepted courses that were computer-based. With an increase of time in this credit requirement, the recommendation is to expand to include career and technology classes to allow students to choose courses most aligned with their post-secondary plans.
  - The PE and Health 2.0 credit requirement required students to spend the equivalent of 80 minutes per day for a full year equivalent. Adjusting the credit requirement to 1.5 will hold the same amount of time for this subject area that is more time-based. The extra .5 will be shifted to elective credit.
  - In the previous system, Alaska History was provided as a 1.0 credit class. The recommendation is to meet the requirement with a 0.5 credit class and allow the student to choose an elective social studies class to complete the same 4.0 credits of required social studies.
- Options were considered by both staff and the Advisory board in February. With the staff input, specific recommendations were provided and passed by the MEHS Advisory Board at the May 05, 2021 meeting with additional input by the Advisory Board.

**◆ OPTIONS**

This is an information item. Action will be taken under agenda item 9.