

# HOUSE BILL NO. 4519

March 16, 2021, Introduced by Reps. Griffin, Martin, Outman and Eisen and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled  
"The revised school code,"  
by amending sections 1278a and 1278b (MCL 380.1278a and 380.1278b),  
section 1278a as amended by 2020 PA 158 and section 1278b as  
amended by 2018 PA 230, and by adding section 1278f.

## **THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

**1**       Sec. 1278a. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section  
**2**   or section 1278b, ~~beginning with pupils entering grade 8 in 2006,~~  
**3**   the board of a school district or board of directors of a public

1 school academy shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil  
2 unless the pupil meets all of the following:

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

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

1 mathematics courses in any particular sequence.

2 (ii) At least 3 credits in social science that are aligned with  
3 subject area content expectations developed by the department and  
4 approved by the state board under section 1278b, including  
5 completion of at least 1 credit in United States history and  
6 geography, 1 credit in world history and geography, 1/2 credit in  
7 economics, and the civics course described in section 1166(2). The  
8 1/2-credit economics requirement may be satisfied by completion of  
9 at least a 1/2-credit course in personal economics that includes a  
10 financial literacy component as described in section 1165, if that  
11 course covers the subject area content expectations for economics  
12 developed by the department and approved by the state board under  
13 section 1278b.

14 (iii) At least 1 credit in subject matter that includes both  
15 health and physical education aligned with guidelines developed by  
16 the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b,  
17 or at least 1/2 credit in health aligned with guidelines developed  
18 by the department and approved by the state board under section  
19 1278b and at least 1/2 credit awarded by the school district or  
20 public school academy for approved participation in extracurricular  
21 athletics or other extracurricular activities involving physical  
22 activity.

23 (iv) At least ~~1 credit in visual arts, performing arts, or~~  
24 ~~applied arts, as defined by the department, that is~~ **3 credits in**  
25 **21st century skills described in section 1278f**, aligned with  
26 guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state  
27 board under section 1278b. ~~A school district or public school~~  
28 ~~academy is strongly encouraged to offer visual arts and performing~~  
29 ~~arts courses.~~

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

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

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

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

16 ~~(2) In addition to the requirements under subsection (1),~~  
17 ~~beginning with pupils entering grade 3 in 2006, the board of a~~  
18 ~~school district or board of directors of a public school academy~~  
19 ~~shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil~~  
20 ~~has successfully completed during grades K to 12 at least 2 credits~~  
21 ~~that are grade-appropriate in a language other than English or~~  
22 ~~course work or other learning experiences that are substantially~~  
23 ~~equivalent to 2 credits in a language other than English, based on~~  
24 ~~guidelines developed by the department. A pupil may partially or~~  
25 ~~fully fulfill 1 credit of this requirement by completing a~~  
26 ~~department-approved formal career and technical education program~~  
27 ~~or curriculum or by completing visual or performing arts~~  
28 ~~instruction that is in addition to the requirements under~~  
29 ~~subsection (1) (a) (iv).~~ The board of a school district or board of

1 directors of a public school academy is strongly encouraged to  
2 ensure that all pupils complete at least 1 credit in a language  
3 other than English, **as described in section 1278f**, in grades K to  
4 6. ~~For the purposes of this subsection, both of the following~~  
5 ~~apply:~~

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

8 ~~(b) The pupil may meet all or part of this requirement with~~  
9 ~~online course work.~~

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

19 (4) For the purposes of this section and section 1278b, all of  
20 the following apply:

21 (a) A pupil is considered to have completed a credit if the  
22 pupil successfully completes the subject area content expectations  
23 or guidelines developed by the department that apply to the credit.  
24 For a career and technical education credit, a school district or  
25 public school academy may supplement those content expectations and  
26 guidelines with additional guidelines developed by the school  
27 district or public school academy.

28 (b) A school district or public school academy shall base its  
29 determination of whether a pupil has successfully completed the

1 subject area content expectations or guidelines developed by the  
2 department that apply to a credit at least in part on the pupil's  
3 performance on ~~the~~ assessments developed or selected by the  
4 department ~~under section 1278b~~ or on 1 or more assessments  
5 developed or selected by the school district or public school  
6 academy that measure a pupil's understanding of the subject area  
7 content expectations or guidelines that apply to the credit.

8 (c) A school district or public school academy shall also  
9 grant a pupil a credit if the pupil earns a qualifying score, as  
10 determined by the department, on ~~the~~ assessments developed or  
11 selected for the subject area by the department ~~under section 1278b~~  
12 or the pupil earns a qualifying score, as determined by the school  
13 district or public school academy, on 1 or more assessments  
14 developed or selected by the school district or public school  
15 academy that measure a pupil's understanding of the subject area  
16 content expectations or guidelines that apply to the credit.

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

1 school as a specialty school if the superintendent of public  
2 instruction finds that the high school meets all of the following  
3 criteria:

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

6 (b) The high school uses a specialized, innovative, and  
7 rigorous curriculum in such areas as performing arts, foreign  
8 language, extensive use of internships, or other learning  
9 innovations that conform to pioneering innovations among other  
10 leading national or international high schools.

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

16 (a) The high school clearly states to prospective pupils and  
17 their parents that it does not meet the requirements of the  
18 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278b but is  
19 a designated specialty school that is exempt from some of those  
20 requirements and that a pupil who enrolls in the high school and  
21 subsequently transfers to a high school that is not a specialty  
22 school meeting the requirements of this subsection will be required  
23 to comply with the requirements of the Michigan merit standard  
24 under this section and section 1278b.

25 (b) For the most recent year for which the data are available,  
26 the mean scores on ~~both the mathematics and science portions of the~~  
27 ~~ACT examination~~ **portion of the SAT examination and the science**  
28 **portion of the applicable state assessment** for the pupils of the  
29 high school exceed by at least 10% the mean scores on the

~~mathematics and science portions of the ACT examination~~ **portion of the SAT examination and the science portion of the applicable state assessment** for the pupils of the school district in which the greatest number of the pupils of the high school reside.

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

(d) For the most recent year for which the data are available, at least 75% of the pupils who graduated from the high school the preceding year are enrolled in a postsecondary institution.

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

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

Sec. 1278b. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section or section 1278a, ~~beginning with pupils entering grade 8 in 2006,~~ as part of the requirements under section 1278a 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 has successfully completed all of the following credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard before graduating from high school:

(a) At least 4 credits in English language arts that are aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the



department and approved by the state board under this section.

(b) At least 3 credits in science that are aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the department and approved by the state board under this section, including completion of at least biology and either chemistry, physics, anatomy, or agricultural science, or successfully completing a program or curriculum that provides the same content as the chemistry or physics benchmarks, as determined by the department. A student may fulfill the requirement for the third science credit by completing a department-approved computer science program or curriculum or ~~formal~~**state-approved** career and technical education program or curriculum. The legislature strongly encourages pupils to complete a fourth credit in science, such as forensics, astronomy, Earth science, agricultural science, environmental science, geology, physics, chemistry, physiology, or microbiology.

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

(2) If a pupil successfully completes 1 or more of the high school credits required under subsection (1) or under section 1278a(1) before entering high school, the pupil ~~shall~~**must** be given high school credit for that credit.

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

(a) Develop subject area content expectations that apply to the credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are required under subsection (1)(a) and (b) and section 1278a(1)(a)(i) and (ii) and develop guidelines for the remaining credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are required under this section and section 1278a(1)(a) ~~and~~ for the online course or

1 learning experience required under section 1278a(1)(b) . ~~and for~~  
 2 ~~the requirements for a language other than English under section~~  
 3 ~~1278a(2)~~. All of the following apply to these subject area content  
 4 expectations and guidelines:

5 (i) All subject area content expectations ~~shall~~**must** be  
 6 consistent with the state board recommended model core academic  
 7 curriculum content standards under section 1278. Subject area  
 8 content expectations or guidelines ~~shall~~**must** not include  
 9 attitudes, beliefs, or value systems that are not essential in the  
 10 legal, economic, and social structure of our society and to the  
 11 personal and social responsibility of citizens of our society. The  
 12 subject area content expectations ~~shall~~**must** require pupils to  
 13 demonstrate critical thinking skills.

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

16 (iii) The subject area content expectations ~~shall~~**must** state in  
 17 clear and measurable terms what pupils are expected to know upon  
 18 completion of each credit.

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

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

29 (vi) If the department has not completed development of the

1 subject area content expectations that apply to a particular credit  
2 required in the Michigan merit standard under subsection (1) ~~or~~  
3 ~~section 1278a(1)(a)~~ by the date required under this subdivision, a  
4 school district or public school academy may align the content of  
5 the credit with locally adopted standards.

6 (vii) Until all of the subject area content expectations and  
7 guidelines have been developed by the department and approved by  
8 the state board, the department shall submit a report at least  
9 every 6 months to the senate and house standing committees  
10 responsible for education legislation on the status of the  
11 development of the subject area content expectations and  
12 guidelines. The report ~~shall~~**must** detail any failure by the  
13 department to meet a deadline established under subparagraph (iv) or  
14 (v) and the reasons for that failure.

15 (b) Develop and implement a process for developing the subject  
16 area content expectations and guidelines required under this  
17 section. This process ~~shall~~**must** provide for all of the following:

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

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

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

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

24 (D) Representatives from the business community.

25 (E) Representatives from vocational and career and technical  
26 education providers.

27 (F) Government officials, including officials from the  
28 legislature.

29 (G) Parents of public school pupils.

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

3           (iii) An opportunity for the public to review and provide input  
4 on the proposed subject area content expectations or guidelines  
5 before they are submitted to the state board for approval. The time  
6 period allowed for this review and input ~~shall~~**must** be at least 15  
7 business days.

8           (c) Determine the basic level of technology and internet  
9 access required for pupils to complete the online course or  
10 learning experience requirement of section 1278a(1)(b), and submit  
11 that determination to the state board for approval.

12           (d) Develop and make available material to assist school  
13 districts and public school academies in implementing the  
14 requirements of this section and section 1278a. This ~~shall~~**must**  
15 include developing guidelines for alternative instructional  
16 delivery methods as described in subsection (7).

17           (4) The state board shall approve subject area content  
18 expectations and guidelines developed by the department under  
19 subsection (3) before those subject area content expectations and  
20 guidelines may take effect. The state board also shall approve the  
21 basic level of technology and internet access required for pupils  
22 to complete the online course or learning experience requirement of  
23 section 1278a(1)(b).

24           (5) The parent or legal guardian of a pupil who has completed  
25 grade 9, a teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who  
26 currently teaches in or whose expertise is in a subject area  
27 proposed to be modified by the personal curriculum, or who is  
28 determined by the principal to have qualifications otherwise  
29 relevant to developing a personal curriculum, or a school counselor

1 or school employee qualified to act in a counseling role under  
2 section 1233 or 1233a may request a personal curriculum under this  
3 subsection for the pupil that modifies certain of the Michigan  
4 merit standard requirements under subsection (1) or section  
5 1278a(1)(a). If the request for a personal curriculum is made by  
6 the pupil's parent or legal guardian or, if the pupil is at least  
7 age 18 or is an emancipated minor, by the pupil, the school  
8 district or public school academy shall develop a personal  
9 curriculum for the pupil. A teacher, school counselor, or school  
10 employee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233  
11 or 1233a may contact a pupil's parent or legal guardian to discuss  
12 the possibility and potential benefits of a personal curriculum  
13 under this subsection for the pupil. If all of the requirements  
14 under this subsection for completing a personal curriculum are met,  
15 then the board of a school district or board of directors of a  
16 public school academy may award a high school diploma to a pupil  
17 who successfully completes his or her personal curriculum even if  
18 it does not meet the requirements of the Michigan merit standard  
19 required under subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a). All of the  
20 following apply to a personal curriculum:

21 (a) The personal curriculum ~~shall~~**must** be developed by a group  
22 that includes at least the pupil, at least 1 of the pupil's parents  
23 or the pupil's legal guardian, and a teacher described in this  
24 subdivision or the pupil's high school counselor or another  
25 designee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233  
26 or 1233a selected by the high school principal. In addition, for a  
27 pupil who receives special education services, a school  
28 psychologist should also be included in this group. The teacher  
29 included in the group developing the personal curriculum shall be a

1 teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who currently teaches  
2 in or whose expertise is in a subject area being modified by the  
3 personal curriculum, or who is determined by the principal to have  
4 qualifications otherwise relevant to the group. This subdivision  
5 does not require an in-person meeting of the group.

6 (b) The personal curriculum ~~shall~~**must** incorporate as much of  
7 the subject area content expectations of the Michigan merit  
8 standard required under subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a) as  
9 is practicable for the pupil; ~~shall~~**must** establish measurable goals  
10 that the pupil must achieve while enrolled in high school and ~~shall~~  
11 **must** provide a method to evaluate whether the pupil achieved these  
12 goals; and ~~shall~~**must** be aligned with the pupil's educational  
13 development plan developed under subsection (11).

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

18 (d) The pupil's parent or legal guardian shall ~~be in~~  
19 ~~communication~~**communicate** with each of the pupil's teachers to  
20 monitor the pupil's progress toward the goals contained in the  
21 pupil's personal curriculum.

22 (e) Revisions may be made in the personal curriculum if the  
23 revisions are developed and agreed to in the same manner as the  
24 original personal curriculum.

25 (f) The English language arts credit requirements of  
26 subsection (1)(a) and the science credit requirements of subsection  
27 (1)(b) are not subject to modification as part of a personal  
28 curriculum under this subsection.

29 (g) The mathematics credit requirements of section

1278a(1)(a)(i) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum if the pupil successfully completes at least 3-1/2 total credits of the mathematics credits required under that section before completing high school, including algebra I and geometry, and successfully completes at least 1 mathematics credit during his or her final 2 years of high school. The algebra II credit required under that section may be modified as part of a personal curriculum under this subsection if the pupil meets 1 or more of the following:

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

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

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

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

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

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

(ii) The modification requires the pupil to complete 1 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or science

or 1 additional credit in a language other than English, or requires the pupil to complete a ~~formal~~ **state-approved** career and technical education program. This additional credit must be in addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1) and section 1278a(1). ~~or under section 1278a(2).~~

(i) The health and physical education credit requirement under section 1278a(1) (a) ~~(iii)~~ may be modified as part of a personal curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil to complete 1 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or science or 1 additional credit in a language other than English, or requires the pupil to complete a ~~formal~~ **state-approved** career and technical education program. This additional credit must be in addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1) and section 1278a(1). ~~or under section 1278a(2).~~

(j) The ~~visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts~~ **21st century skills** credit ~~requirement~~ **requirements** under section 1278a(1) (a) ~~(iv)~~ may be modified as part of a personal curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil to complete ~~1~~ **3** additional ~~credit~~ **credits** in English language arts, mathematics, or science or 1 additional credit in a language other than English, or requires the pupil to complete a ~~formal~~ **state-approved** career and technical education program. ~~This~~ **These** additional ~~credit~~ **credits** must be in addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1) and section 1278a(1). ~~or under section 1278a(2).~~

(k) If the parent or legal guardian of a pupil requests as part of the pupil's personal curriculum a modification of the Michigan merit standard requirements that would not otherwise be allowed under this section and demonstrates that the modification



1 is necessary because the pupil is a child with a disability, the  
2 school district or public school academy may allow that additional  
3 modification to the extent necessary because of the pupil's  
4 disability if the group under subdivision (a) determines that the  
5 modification is consistent with both the pupil's educational  
6 development plan under subsection (11) and the pupil's  
7 individualized education program. If the superintendent of public  
8 instruction has reason to believe that a school district or a  
9 public school academy is allowing modifications inconsistent with  
10 the requirements of this subdivision, the superintendent of public  
11 instruction shall monitor the school district or public school  
12 academy to ensure that the school district's or public school  
13 academy's policies, procedures, and practices are in compliance  
14 with the requirements for additional modifications under this  
15 subdivision. As used in this subdivision, "child with a disability"  
16 means that term as defined in 20 USC 1401.

17 (l) If a pupil transfers to a school district or public school  
18 academy from out of state or from a nonpublic school, the pupil's  
19 parent or legal guardian may request, as part of the pupil's  
20 personal curriculum, a modification of the Michigan merit standard  
21 requirements that would not otherwise be allowed under this  
22 section. The school district or public school academy may allow  
23 this additional modification for a transfer pupil if all of the  
24 following are met:

25 (i) The transfer pupil has successfully completed at least the  
26 equivalent of 2 years of high school credit out of state or at a  
27 nonpublic school. The school district or public school academy may  
28 use appropriate assessment examinations to determine what credits,  
29 if any, the pupil has earned out of state or at a nonpublic school

1 that may be used to satisfy the curricular requirements of the  
2 Michigan merit standard and this subdivision.

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

6 (iii) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum requires the  
7 pupil to successfully complete at least 1 mathematics course during  
8 his or her final year of high school enrollment. In addition, if  
9 the transfer pupil is enrolled in the school district or public  
10 school academy for at least 1 full school year, both of the  
11 following apply:

12 (A) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum ~~shall~~**must**  
13 require that this mathematics course is at least algebra I.

14 (B) If the transfer pupil demonstrates that he or she has  
15 mastered the content of algebra I, the transfer pupil's personal  
16 curriculum ~~shall~~**must** require that this mathematics course is a  
17 course normally taken after completing algebra I.

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

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

22 (n) This subsection does not apply to a pupil enrolled in a  
23 high school that is designated as a specialty school under section  
24 1278a(5) and that is exempt under that section from the English  
25 language arts requirement under subsection (1)(a) and the social  
26 science credit requirement under section 1278a(1)(a) (ii).

27 (o) The department or a school district or public school  
28 academy shall not limit or discourage the number of pupils with a  
29 personal curriculum on any basis other than the best interests of

1 each individual pupil.

2 (p) A school district or public school academy annually shall  
3 notify each of its pupils and a parent or legal guardian of each of  
4 its pupils that all pupils are entitled to a personal curriculum  
5 under this subsection. The annual notice ~~shall~~**must** include an  
6 explanation of what a personal curriculum is and state that if a  
7 personal curriculum is requested, the public school or public  
8 school academy will grant that request. The school district or  
9 public school academy shall provide this annual notice to parents  
10 and legal guardians by sending a written notice to each pupil's  
11 home or by including the notice in a newsletter, student handbook,  
12 or similar communication that is sent to a pupil's home, and also  
13 shall post the notice on the school district's or public school  
14 academy's website.

15 (6) If a pupil receives special education services, the  
16 pupil's individualized education program, in accordance with the  
17 individuals with disabilities education act, title VI of Public Law  
18 91-230, ~~shall~~**must** identify the appropriate course or courses of  
19 study and identify the supports, accommodations, and modifications  
20 necessary to allow the pupil to progress in the curricular  
21 requirements of this section and section 1278a, or in a personal  
22 curriculum as provided under subsection (5), and meet the  
23 requirements for a high school diploma.

24 (7) The board of a school district or board of directors of a  
25 public school academy that operates a high school shall ensure that  
26 each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for the pupil to  
27 meet the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a.  
28 The board or board of directors may provide this curriculum by  
29 providing the credits specified in this section and section 1278a,

1 by using alternative instructional delivery methods such as  
2 alternative course work, humanities course sequences, career and  
3 technical education, industrial technology courses, or vocational  
4 education, or by a combination of these. School districts and  
5 public school academies that operate career and technical education  
6 programs are encouraged to integrate the credit requirements of  
7 this section and section 1278a into those programs.

8 (8) If the board of a school district or board of directors of  
9 a public school academy wants its high school to be accredited  
10 under section 1280, the board or board of directors shall ensure  
11 that all elements of the curriculum required under this section and  
12 section 1278a are made available to all affected pupils. If a  
13 school district or public school academy does not offer all of the  
14 required credits, the board of the school district or board of  
15 directors of the public school academy shall ensure that the pupil  
16 has access to the required credits by another means, such as  
17 enrollment in a postsecondary course under the postsecondary  
18 enrollment options act, 1996 PA 160, MCL 388.511 to 388.524;  
19 enrollment in an online course; a cooperative arrangement with a  
20 neighboring school district or with a public school academy; or  
21 granting approval under section 6(6) of the state school aid act of  
22 1979, MCL 388.1606, for the pupil to be counted in membership in  
23 another school district.

24 (9) If a pupil is not successfully completing a credit  
25 required for graduation under this section and section 1278a, or is  
26 identified as being at risk of withdrawing from high school, then  
27 the pupil's school district or public school academy shall notify  
28 the pupil's parent or legal guardian or, if the pupil is at least  
29 age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the pupil, of the availability

1 of tutoring or other supplemental educational support and  
2 counseling services that may be available to the pupil under  
3 existing state or federal programs, such as those programs or  
4 services available under section 31a of the state school aid act of  
5 1979, MCL 388.1631a, ~~or~~ under the no child left behind act of 2001,  
6 Public Law 107-110, **or under the every student succeeds act, Public**  
7 **Law 114-95.**

8 (10) To the extent required by the no child left behind act of  
9 2001, Public Law 107-110, **or the every student succeeds act, Public**  
10 **Law 114-95,** the board of a school district or public school academy  
11 shall ensure that all components of the curricular requirements  
12 under this section and section 1278a are taught by highly qualified  
13 teachers. If a school district or public school academy  
14 demonstrates to the department that the school district or public  
15 school academy is unable to meet the requirements of this section  
16 because the school district or public school academy is unable to  
17 hire enough highly qualified teachers, the department shall work  
18 with the school district or public school academy to develop a plan  
19 to allow the school district or public school academy to hire  
20 enough highly qualified teachers to meet the requirements of this  
21 section.

22 (11) The board of a school district or board of directors of a  
23 public school academy shall provide the opportunity for each pupil  
24 to develop an educational development plan during grade 7, and  
25 shall ensure that each pupil reviews his or her educational  
26 development plan during grade 8 and revises it as appropriate  
27 before he or she begins high school. The board of a school district  
28 or board of directors of a public school academy shall also ensure  
29 that each pupil reviews and revises his or her educational

1 development plan as appropriate during each year of high school. An  
2 educational development plan ~~shall~~**must** be developed, reviewed, and  
3 revised by the pupil under the supervision of the pupil's school  
4 counselor or another designee qualified to act in a counseling role  
5 under section 1233 or 1233a selected by the school principal and  
6 ~~shall~~**must** be based on high school readiness scores and a career  
7 pathways program or similar career exploration program. An  
8 educational development plan ~~shall~~**must** be designed to assist  
9 pupils to identify career development goals as they relate to  
10 academic requirements. During the process of developing and  
11 reviewing a pupil's educational development plan, the pupil ~~shall~~  
12 **must** be advised that many of the curricular requirements of this  
13 section and section 1278a may be fulfilled through career and  
14 technical education. In addition, during the process of developing  
15 and reviewing an educational development plan, the pupil ~~shall~~**must**  
16 be provided with all of the following:

17 (a) Information on various types of careers and current and  
18 projected job openings in this state and those jobs' actual and  
19 projected wages.

20 (b) An opportunity to explore careers specific to a pupil's  
21 interests and identify career pathways and goals for achieving  
22 success in those careers, including, but not limited to, the level  
23 and type of educational preparation necessary to accomplish those  
24 goals.

25 (c) An opportunity to develop a talent portfolio. A talent  
26 portfolio ~~shall~~**must** be developed and revised throughout the  
27 implementation of a pupil's educational development plan. A talent  
28 portfolio ~~shall~~**must** include, but is not limited to, a record of  
29 the pupil's experiences, proficiencies, certifications, or

1 accomplishments that demonstrate talents or marketable skills. The  
2 department, in conjunction with the department of ~~talent and~~  
3 ~~economic development, labor and economic opportunity~~, shall develop  
4 and make available to the public schools model information  
5 materials that districts or public school academies may use to  
6 comply with this subdivision.

7 (12) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if a  
8 school district or public school academy is unable to implement all  
9 of the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a  
10 for pupils entering grade 9 in 2007 or is unable to implement  
11 another requirement of this section or section 1278a, the school  
12 district or public school academy may apply to the department for  
13 permission to phase in 1 or more of the requirements of this  
14 section or section 1278a. To apply, the school district or public  
15 school academy shall submit a proposed phase-in plan to the  
16 department. The department shall approve a phase-in plan if the  
17 department determines that the plan will result in the school  
18 district or public school academy making satisfactory progress  
19 toward full implementation of the requirements of this section and  
20 section 1278a. If the department disapproves a proposed phase-in  
21 plan, the department shall work with the school district or public  
22 school academy to develop a satisfactory plan that may be approved.  
23 ~~However, if legislation is enacted that adds section 1290 to allow~~  
24 ~~school districts and public school academies to apply for a~~  
25 ~~contract that waives certain state or federal requirements, then~~  
26 ~~this subsection does not apply but a school district or public~~  
27 ~~school academy may take action as described in subsection (13).~~  
28 This subsection does not apply to a high school that is designated  
29 as a specialty school under section 1278a(5) and that is exempt

1 under that section from the English language arts requirement under  
2 subsection (1) (a) and the social science credit requirement under  
3 section 1278a(1) (a) (ii) .

4 ~~(13) If a school district or public school academy does not~~  
5 ~~offer all of the required credits or provide options to have access~~  
6 ~~to the required credits as provided under subsection (8) and if~~  
7 ~~legislation is enacted that adds section 1290 to allow school~~  
8 ~~districts and public school academies to apply for a contract that~~  
9 ~~waives certain state or federal requirements, then the school~~  
10 ~~district or public school academy is encouraged to apply for a~~  
11 ~~contract under section 1290. The purpose of a contract described in~~  
12 ~~this subsection is to improve pupil performance.~~

13 **(13)** ~~(14)~~ This section and section 1278a do not prohibit a  
14 pupil from satisfying or exceeding the credit requirements of the  
15 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278a  
16 through advanced studies such as accelerated course placement,  
17 advanced placement, dual enrollment in a postsecondary institution,  
18 or participation in the international baccalaureate program or an  
19 early college/middle college program.

20 **(14)** ~~(15)~~ Not later than April 1 of each year, the department  
21 shall submit an annual report to the legislature that evaluates the  
22 overall success of the curriculum required under this section and  
23 section 1278a, the rigor and relevance of the course work required  
24 by the curriculum, the ability of public schools to implement the  
25 curriculum and the required course work, and the impact of the  
26 curriculum on pupil success, and that details any activities the  
27 department has undertaken to implement this section and section  
28 1278a or to assist public schools in implementing the requirements  
29 of this section and section 1278a.



1       Sec. 1278f. A pupil may satisfy the credit requirements in  
2 21st century skills for a high school diploma under section  
3 1278a(1)(a)(iv) by successfully completing any combination of 3  
4 credits in the following:

5       (a) A language other than English. A pupil may complete 1 or  
6 more credits in a language other than English by completing, at any  
7 time during grades K to 12, 1 or more credits that are grade-  
8 appropriate in a language other than English or coursework or other  
9 learning experiences that are substantially equivalent to credits  
10 in a language other than English, based on guidelines developed by  
11 the department. For the purposes of this subdivision, both of the  
12 following apply:

13       (i) American Sign Language is considered to be a language other  
14 than English.

15       (ii) The pupil may satisfy all or part of the requirements for  
16 a credit in a language other than English with online coursework.

17       (b) Visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts, as defined  
18 by the department. A school district or public school academy is  
19 strongly encouraged to offer visual arts and performing arts  
20 courses.

21       (c) Computer science or computer coding, or a combination of  
22 these.

23       (d) A state-approved career and technical education program.

24       Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days  
25 after the date it is enacted into law.