

WILLIAMSBURG-JAMES CITY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NOTICE OF TEST REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN DIPLOMAS Ninth Grade Classes of 2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-2003

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The Commonwealth of Virginia has “high-stakes” testing. This means that students are not eligible to receive a Standard or Advanced Studies Diploma without earning the specific number of **Verified Credits** required by the diploma. Students earn a **Verified Credit** by passing the requirements of the course **and** by achieving a passing score on the end-of-course Standards of Learning (SOL) test or on a substitute test approved by the Virginia Board of Education. Six (6) Verified Credits are required for a Standard Diploma and nine (9) are required for an Advanced Studies Diploma. Along with the Verified Credits required by the Commonwealth of Virginia, students must fulfill the WJCC Schools’ local requirements for graduation from high school.

Both the WJCC graduation requirements and the Verified Credits requirements must be met to earn a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma. It is important that each student and his/her parent work closely with his/her school counselor to make certain that requirements for a high school diploma are met. WJCC diploma requirements are listed on the reverse side of this notification and may also be found in the WJCC Schools’ high school and middle school Program of Studies.

You can determine the number of verified credits that your child will need to receive either a Standard Diploma or an Advanced Studies Diploma by referring to the chart below. Please use this information as you and your child make academic choices with your school counselor’s help.

SUMMARY CHART OF VERIFIED CREDIT REQUIREMENTS			
To Earn a Standard Diploma		To Earn an Advanced Studies Diploma	
If the student is in the 9th grade for the first time during the	Then the student will need to earn the following Verified Credits by passing the SOL or Board approved substitute test	If the student is in the 9th grade for the first time during the	Then the student will need to earn the following Verified Credits by passing the SOL or Board approved substitute test
2000-2001, 2001-2002, or 2002-2003 school year	2 English (in grade 11) and 4 Student Selected SOL or Board approved substitute tests from Math, Science, Social Studies, and/or Career and Technical	2000-2001, 2001-2002, or 2002-2003 school year	2 English (in grade 11), 2 Math, 2 Science, 2 Social Studies, and 1 Student Selected SOL or Board approved substitute test from Math, Science, Social Studies, and/or Career and Technical
	In addition, the student must meet the WJCC Schools’ local graduation requirements.		In addition, the student must meet the WJCC Schools’ local graduation requirements.
1999-2000 school year or earlier	No Verified Credits will be required. However, the student must meet the WJCC Schools’ local diploma requirements.	1999-2000 school year or earlier	No Verified Credits will be required. However, the student must meet the WJCC Schools’ local diploma requirements.

Note: Students who were first-time ninth graders in the 2000-01 school year or later will always be required to earn verified credits to receive a high school diploma. Students who were in the eighth grade or above in the 1998-1999 school year will always be required to pass the Literacy Passport Test (LPT) to receive a high school diploma.