



PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Instructional Services Division

(626)396-3600 Ext. 88216

November 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to an amazing 2017-18 school year and thank you for your continued support of our students and our schools! PUSD High School education has expanded to prepare our graduates for an ever-changing world and a global economy. We are providing students more of the advanced skills they need to be successful, productive citizens who are future-ready. We are committed to providing every student with a foundation of knowledge and character necessary to excel in higher education, work, and life. **All PUSD students must complete the following requirements to graduate with a high school diploma:**

- 1. Complete 220 Credits of Required Courses:** Students earn 5 credits per semester for every course they pass.

Subject Area	# of required credits
English	40 credits (4 years)
Math	30 credits (3 years)
Social Science	30 credits (3 years)
Science	30 credits (3 years)
World Language	10 credits (1 year)
Fine Art/Performing Art	10 credits (1 year)
PE	20 credits (2 years)
Health	5 credits (1 semester) required for class of 2021 and beyond
CTE (Career Technical Education)	5 credits (1 semester) required for class of 2021 and beyond
Electives	40 credits (4 years)

- 2. Complete 40 hours of Community Service or Work Based Learning (Requirement for the class of 2019 and beyond):**

Students enrolled in a traditional diploma path (220 credits) are required to complete 40 hours of approved Community Service and/or Work-Based Learning, whereas those participating in the alternative learning option (170 credits) are required to complete 60 Community Service and/or Work-Based Learning hours.

- 3. Submit a Graduate Portfolio and Present the Graduate Defense:** (Requirement for the class of 2019 and beyond):

The Graduate Portfolio and Defense is an opportunity for students to showcase their academic achievement and proficiency in RESEARCH, CREATIVITY AND COMMUNICATION skills, and to reflect on their learning and growth during high school. Throughout their 4 years of high school, students will store samples of their work in a digital portfolio. During their senior year, they will present and defend their learning utilizing some of their work samples as evidence. This presentation will be given in front of a panel that will consist of teachers, peers and community, business, and post-secondary partners.

Please contact your student's counselor, site administrator or myself to receive more detailed information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Marisa".

Marisa Sarian, Ph.D.

Assistant Superintendent, Secondary Education