



# CAPSTONE PORTFOLIO

COMPETENCY OPTION



CLASS OF 2021 AND BEYOND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

You may have heard by now, there are new graduation requirements beginning with our Class of 2021, designed to prepare all students for the college and career path of their choice.

## The three requirements are:

### 1. COMPLETE YOUR ICAP

You know that plan for your future you've been working on with your teachers and counselors? You'll continue to complete and use this Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP) as your roadmap throughout high school, as a guide to ensuring you accomplish your college and career goals.



### 2. FINISH 24 UNITS OF APPROVED COURSE CREDIT

4 units of English

4 units of math

3 units of science

3 units of social studies

1 unit of physical education

1 unit of arts or eligible Career & Technical Education (CTE)

8 units of approved electives



### 3. MEET COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS

Demonstrating competency toward college and career readiness means being able to show that you've learned certain skills and concepts, and are able to apply them in the real world. You not only understand an idea or skill, you are also able to build on what you've been taught, and even feel comfortable explaining it to others.



**A CAPSTONE** is one of many ways you can demonstrate competency on your path to graduation, and it's an option for every student.



## What is a Capstone?

With the Capstone option, students build a portfolio of work throughout their high school experience to show what they've learned and how it applies in the real world. It allows students and educators to monitor progress over time, and students get valuable feedback as they fine-tune their portfolio.

## What makes the Capstone approach unique?

A Capstone keeps you, the student, in the center — meaning you are empowered to understand the skills you must master as you take ownership of your learning. With any college work or job in your future, you will be asked to prove what you know, and a Capstone is a great way to get you ready.

Unlike many competency measurements, a Capstone is not a test you take. In this way, it creates an opportunity for you to see your progress and areas for improvement in real time. With a Capstone, you know where you stand, and are given the tools to get where you need to be.

WITH A CAPSTONE,  
YOU'LL BE CHALLENGED  
TO BUILD PROFESSIONAL  
SKILLS, LIKE:

- ✔ Critical thinking
- ✔ Problem solving
- ✔ Strong communications
- ✔ Workplace behaviors, like how to be reflective
- ✔ Tracking your growth and implementing key learnings
- ✔ Validated work to share with colleges and employers

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By cultivating these skills now, you'll be on the right track to be successful in any pathway you choose — whether that's the workforce after graduation, continued training for specialized industry certifications or going to college.

## What does it take to complete a Capstone?

1

**YOU'LL RECEIVE CLEAR TARGETS** at the beginning of your portfolio creation process. From there, you'll work toward meeting specific expectations.

2

**TURN IN ARTIFACTS (OR EVIDENCE):** Stored in an electronic portfolio, artifacts can be completed as assignments in your classes and through CareerConnect programs and workforce training.

3

**MEET PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS:** Similar to workplace evaluations, your teacher will critique your artifacts against a set rubric.

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## Requirements\*\*

### ENGLISH ARTIFACTS

- Argumentative writing
- Informative writing

### MATH ARTIFACTS

- Solving equations\*
- Models\*
- Functions\*
- Coordinate geometry
- Proofs
- Geometric models\*

### CAREER ARTIFACTS

*Required only for students pursuing a CareerConnect pathway*

- CareerConnect course completions
- Industry certifications
- Demonstrations of learning
- Work based learning experiences
- Traits of a Young Professional



*\*Must meet expectations on grade level progressions. \*\*Modifications and accommodations are available to support. Talk to your school about specific requirements.*

## Who will help me track my progress?



If you decide the Capstone approach is for you, your school staff will help you stay on top of what's expected of you, and provide you with guidance and feedback along the way. **Learn more by talking to your teachers and counselors.**