

UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Subject:

ACTION: R277-717, High School Course Grading Requirements (Amendment)

Agenda item type:

Action Item

Recommended Action:

MOTION FOR THE BOARD: That the Board approve R277-717, High School Course Grading Requirements, Draft 1 on second and final reading.

Purpose of Memo:

Result of legislative action

Background:**Background of the Rule and H.B. 502:**

Rule R277-717 establishes requirements related to high school course grading, including grade replacement procedures for repeated or comparable courses. The rule provides standards for how LEAs calculate, replace, and report course grades and grade point averages for high school students.

During the 2026 General Session, the Utah Legislature passed H.B. 502, School Attendance Modifications. The legislation directs the Board to establish statewide standards for citizenship grading policies adopted by LEAs. H.B. 502 also creates parent opt-out rights related to citizenship grading and requires students who opt out to receive grades based solely on academic content mastery.

Summary of Proposed Amendments:

The proposed amendments update Rule R277-717 to implement the citizenship grading provisions established in H.B. 502. The changes add definitions related to citizenship grading and durable skills and establish minimum statewide standards for LEA citizenship grading policies.

The proposed amendments require citizenship grades to be based on clearly defined and observable behaviors using consistent criteria and clarify that citizenship grades remain separate from measures of academic content mastery except where otherwise authorized in statute. The rule also requires LEAs that adopt citizenship grading policies to establish standards related to attendance, meeting deadlines, participation and engagement, and communication with instructional staff.

Additionally, the proposed amendments require annual parent notification regarding citizenship grading policies and opt-out rights, establish requirements for parent opt-out procedures, and require citizenship grades reported on transcripts to be clearly distinguished from academic course grades.

Staff will present R277-717, High School Course Grading Requirements, Draft 1, for consideration and approval.

Authorizing, and Implemented or Interpreted Law: [Art X Sec 3](#); [53E-3-401\(4\)](#)

Contact:

Name:	Jennifer Wadsworth	Cathy Gray	Meghan Everette
Title:	Policy Advisor	Graduation and Concurrent Enrollment Specialist	Director of Teaching and Learning
Phone:	801-538-7521	801-538-7830	801-538-7543
Email:	jennifer.wadsworth@schools.utah.gov	cathy.gray@schools.utah.gov	meghan.everette

Attachments:

1. R277-717 - Draft 1 - June 2026 Committee
2. R277-717 Reporting Burden and Fiscal Impact Estimate Form