



School District of Fort Atkinson

SCIENCE EQUIVALENCY APPLICATION FOR AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Report to the Board of Education
June 19, 2014

Science Equivalency Concept

- State of Wisconsin and DPI are committed to expanding opportunities for students to meet the graduation requirements in § 118.33 Stats. and Chapter PI 18, the *High School Graduation Standards*.
- Chapter PI 18.02 defines “equivalent graduation policy” as “a board policy which meets the credit requirements specified (§ 118.33 Stats.) for each subject area, but which permits selected equivalent courses as long as such courses contain the time allotment and substantially the same objectives to develop the knowledge, concepts, and skills of the course for which an equivalent is proposed.”

Dates of Reference

- DPI updated AGRICULTURE Science Equivalency documents and process in 2007
- TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION Science Equivalency documents and process were established in 2008

Important Notes

- When documenting equivalency credit on a student's transcript, it is important to note that the original course designation does not change; that is, an agriculture course that is approved as equivalent to a science course will remain listed on the transcript as an agriculture course. The district will, however, need to designate the agriculture course as being a science equivalent on the student's transcript.
- Similarly, the required license for the teacher does not change. An agriculture course approved as equivalent to a science course would have to be taught by a teacher who holds an agriculture license.
- UW-System campuses will recognize certain science equivalency courses for college admission requirements. Student would need to consult DPI website and/or school for details.

New Science Graduation Requirements

Beginning with the graduating class of 2017, all Wisconsin Public School students must complete three (3) math and three (3) science credits for graduation.

*Proposed Fort Atkinson Science Graduation Requirements
(pending BOE action this evening & next month)*

- 1 credit Biological Science
- 1 credit Physical Science
- 1 credit Science Elective (could be satisfied by a proposed science equivalency course)

Overview of Equivalency Process

- Form a committee of district personnel that includes agriculture or technology education and science educators
- Review the knowledge and skills of the course the district is seeking equivalency for and compare this to the knowledge and skills identified in the district science curriculum or program (“crosswalk” document)
- Document committee tasks, district personnel involved and course details including instructional time allocation
- Request school board approval for the equivalency course
- Submit all documentation to DPI for approval

For Your Consideration

The following science equivalency courses are being presented to you tonight for your consideration:

Agriculture Science Equivalency Courses:

- Plant Science – 1 credit
- Veterinarian Science – .5 credit
(pre-requisite = Animal Science)

Technology Education Science Equivalency Course:

- Principles of Engineering – 1 credit
(pre-requisite = Introduction to Engineering)



QUESTIONS?

Agriculture, Science and Technology Educators
are available to answer your course specific or
equivalency process questions