

HOUSE BILL NO. 4209

March 08, 2023, Introduced by Reps. Neyer, Schuette, Kunse, Prestin, Harris, Alexander, Beson, St. Germaine, Martin, Markkanen, Hoadley, DeBoer and Steele and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled "The revised school code," by amending sections 1278a, 1278b, and 1278c (MCL 380.1278a, 380.1278b, and 380.1278c), sections 1278a and 1278b as amended by 2022 PA 105 and section 1278c as amended by 2018 PA 242, and by adding section 1278f.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1278a. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section,
2 ~~or~~ section 1278b, **or section 1278f**, the board of a school district
3 or board of directors of a public school academy shall not award a

1 high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil meets all of the
2 following:

3 (a) Has successfully completed all of the following credit
4 requirements of the Michigan merit standard before graduating from
5 high school:

6 (i) At least 4 credits in mathematics that are aligned with
7 subject area content expectations developed by the department and
8 approved by the state board under section 1278b, including
9 completion of at least algebra I, geometry, and algebra II, or an
10 integrated sequence of this course content that consists of 3
11 credits, and an additional mathematics credit, such as
12 trigonometry, statistics, precalculus, calculus, applied math,
13 accounting, business math, a retake of algebra II, or, for only
14 pupils entering grade 8 before 2023, a course in financial literacy
15 as described in section 1165. A pupil may complete algebra II over
16 2 years with 2 credits awarded or over 1.5 years with 1.5 credits
17 awarded for the purposes of this section and section 1278b. A pupil
18 also may partially or fully fulfill the algebra II requirement by
19 completing a department-approved formal career and technical
20 education program or curriculum, such as a program or curriculum in
21 electronics, machining, construction, welding, engineering,
22 computer science, or renewable energy, and in that program or
23 curriculum successfully completing the same content as the algebra
24 II benchmarks assessed on the department-prescribed state high
25 school assessment, as determined by the department. The department
26 shall post on its website guidelines for implementation of the
27 immediately preceding sentence. Each pupil must successfully
28 complete at least 1 mathematics course during his or her final year
29 of high school enrollment. This subparagraph does not require

1 completion of mathematics courses in any particular sequence.

2 (ii) At least 3 credits in social science that are aligned with
3 subject area content expectations developed by the department and
4 approved by the state board under section 1278b, including
5 completion of at least 1 credit in United States history and
6 geography, 1 credit in world history and geography, 1/2 credit in
7 economics, and the civics course described in section 1166(2). For
8 only pupils entering grade 8 before 2023, the 1/2-credit economics
9 requirement may be satisfied by completion of at least a 1/2-credit
10 course in personal economics that includes a financial literacy
11 component as described in section 1165, if that course covers the
12 subject area content expectations for economics developed by the
13 department and approved by the state board under section 1278b. The
14 1/2 credit in economics required under this subparagraph cannot be
15 fulfilled by completion of the 1/2 credit course in personal
16 finance described in subsection (3).

17 (iii) At least 1 credit in subject matter that includes both
18 health and physical education aligned with guidelines developed by
19 the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b,
20 or at least 1/2 credit in health aligned with guidelines developed
21 by the department and approved by the state board under section
22 1278b and at least 1/2 credit awarded by the school district or
23 public school academy for approved participation in extracurricular
24 athletics or other extracurricular activities involving physical
25 activity.

26 (iv) At least 1 credit in visual arts, performing arts, or
27 applied arts, as defined by the department, that is aligned with
28 guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state
29 board under section 1278b. A school district or public school

1 academy is strongly encouraged to offer visual arts and performing
2 arts courses.

3 (v) The credit requirements specified in section 1278b(1).

4 (b) Meets the online course or learning experience requirement
5 of this subsection. A school district or public school academy
6 shall provide the basic level of technology and internet access
7 required by the state board to complete the online course or
8 learning experience. For a pupil to meet this requirement, the
9 pupil must meet either of the following, as determined by the
10 school district or public school academy:

11 (i) Has successfully completed at least 1 course or learning
12 experience that is presented online, as defined by the department.

13 (ii) The pupil's school district or public school academy has
14 integrated an online experience throughout the high school
15 curriculum by ensuring that each teacher of each course that
16 provides the required credits of the Michigan merit curriculum has
17 integrated an online experience into the course.

18 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, and in
19 addition to the requirements under subsection (1), the board of a
20 school district or board of directors of a public school academy
21 shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the pupil
22 has successfully completed during grades K to 12 at least 2 credits
23 that are grade-appropriate in a language other than English or
24 course work or other learning experiences that are substantially
25 equivalent to 2 credits in a language other than English, based on
26 guidelines developed by the department. A pupil may partially or
27 fully fulfill 1 credit of this requirement by completing a
28 department-approved formal career and technical education program
29 or curriculum or by completing visual or performing arts

1 instruction that is in addition to the requirements under
2 subsection (1) (a) (iv). The board of a school district or board of
3 directors of a public school academy is strongly encouraged to
4 ensure that all pupils complete at least 1 credit in a language
5 other than English in grades K to 6. For the purposes of this
6 subsection, both of the following apply:

7 (a) American Sign Language is considered to be a language
8 other than English.

9 (b) The pupil may meet all or part of this requirement with
10 online course work.

11 (3) Beginning with pupils entering grade 8 in 2023, the board
12 of a school district or board of directors of a public school
13 academy shall not award a high school diploma to a pupil unless the
14 pupil completes a 1/2 credit course in personal finance that aligns
15 with subject area content expectations developed by the department
16 and approved by the state board under section 1278b. The 1/2 credit
17 course in personal finance must fulfill 1/2 credit of mathematics
18 required under subsection (1) (a) (i), 1/2 credit of visual arts,
19 performing arts, or applied arts required under subsection
20 (1) (a) (iv), or 1/2 credit of a language other than English required
21 under subsection (2), as determined by the board of the school
22 district or board of directors of the public school academy in
23 which the pupil is enrolled. The 1/2 credit course in personal
24 finance required under this subsection may be fulfilled through a
25 department-approved formal career and technical education program
26 or curriculum that aligns with the subject area content
27 expectations developed by the department and approved by the state
28 board for the credit under section 1278b.

29 (4) The requirements under this section and section 1278b for

1 a high school diploma are in addition to any local requirements
2 imposed by the board of a school district or board of directors of
3 a public school academy. The board of a school district or board of
4 directors of a public school academy, as a local requirement for a
5 high school diploma, may require a pupil to complete the Michigan
6 merit examination under section 1279g or may require a pupil to
7 participate in the MIAccess assessments if appropriate for the
8 pupil.

9 (5) For the purposes of this section and section 1278b, all of
10 the following apply:

11 (a) ~~A~~**Except as otherwise provided in this section, section**
12 **1278b, or section 1278f, a** pupil is considered to have completed a
13 credit if the pupil successfully completes the subject area content
14 expectations or guidelines developed by the department that apply
15 to the credit. For a career and technical education credit, a
16 school district or public school academy may supplement those
17 content expectations and guidelines with additional guidelines
18 developed by the school district or public school academy.

19 (b) A school district or public school academy shall base its
20 determination of whether a pupil has successfully completed the
21 subject area content expectations or guidelines developed by the
22 department that apply to a credit at least in part on the pupil's
23 performance on assessments developed or selected by the department
24 or on 1 or more assessments developed or selected by the school
25 district or public school academy that measure a pupil's
26 understanding of the subject area content expectations or
27 guidelines that apply to the credit.

28 (c) A school district or public school academy shall also
29 grant a pupil a credit if the pupil earns a qualifying score, as

1 determined by the department, on assessments developed or selected
2 for the subject area by the department or the pupil earns a
3 qualifying score, as determined by the school district or public
4 school academy, on 1 or more assessments developed or selected by
5 the school district or public school academy that measure a pupil's
6 understanding of the subject area content expectations or
7 guidelines that apply to the credit.

8 (6) If a high school is designated by the superintendent of
9 public instruction as a specialty school and the high school meets
10 the requirements of subsection (7), the pupils of the high school
11 are not required to successfully complete the 4 credits in English
12 language arts required under section 1278b(1)(a) or the 3 credits
13 in social science required under subsection (1)(a)(ii) and the
14 school district or public school academy is not required to ensure
15 that each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for meeting
16 those English language arts or social science credit requirements.
17 The superintendent of public instruction may designate up to 15
18 high schools that meet the requirements of this subsection as
19 specialty schools. Subject to this maximum number, the
20 superintendent of public instruction shall designate a high school
21 as a specialty school if the superintendent of public instruction
22 finds that the high school meets all of the following criteria:

23 (a) The high school incorporates a significant reading and
24 writing component throughout its curriculum.

25 (b) The high school uses a specialized, innovative, and
26 rigorous curriculum in such areas as performing arts, foreign
27 language, extensive use of internships, or other learning
28 innovations that conform to pioneering innovations among other
29 leading national or international high schools.

1 (7) A high school that is designated by the superintendent of
2 public instruction as a specialty school under subsection (6) is
3 only exempt from requirements as described under subsection (6) as
4 long as the superintendent of public instruction finds that the
5 high school continues to meet all of the following requirements:

6 (a) The high school clearly states to prospective pupils and
7 their parents that it does not meet the requirements of the
8 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278b but is
9 a designated specialty school that is exempt from some of those
10 requirements and that a pupil who enrolls in the high school and
11 subsequently transfers to a high school that is not a specialty
12 school meeting the requirements of this subsection will be required
13 to comply with the requirements of the Michigan merit standard
14 under this section and section 1278b.

15 (b) For the most recent year for which the data are available,
16 the mean scores on both the mathematics and science portions of the
17 applicable state assessment for the pupils of the high school
18 exceed by at least 10% the mean scores on the mathematics and
19 science portions of the applicable state assessment for the pupils
20 of the school district in which the greatest number of the pupils
21 of the high school reside.

22 (c) For the most recent year for which the data are available,
23 the high school had a graduation rate of at least 85%, as
24 determined by the department.

25 (d) For the most recent year for which the data are available,
26 at least 75% of the pupils who graduated from the high school the
27 preceding year are enrolled in a postsecondary institution.

28 (e) All pupils of the high school are required to meet the
29 mathematics credit requirements of subsection (1) (a) (i), with no

1 modification of these requirements under section 1278b(5) ~~, or~~
2 **section 1278f, as applicable**, and each pupil is offered the
3 curriculum necessary to meet this requirement.

4 (f) All pupils of the high school are required to meet the
5 science credit requirements of section 1278b(1)(b) and are also
6 required to successfully complete at least 1 additional science
7 credit, for a total of at least 4 science credits, with no
8 modification of these requirements under section 1278b(5) ~~, or~~
9 **section 1278f, as applicable**, and each pupil is offered the
10 curriculum necessary to meet this requirement.

11 Sec. 1278b. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section,
12 ~~or~~ section 1278a, **or section 1278f**, as part of the requirements
13 under section 1278a the board of a school district or board of
14 directors of a public school academy shall not award a high school
15 diploma to a pupil unless the pupil has successfully completed all
16 of the following credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard
17 before graduating from high school:

18 (a) At least 4 credits in English language arts that are
19 aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the
20 department and approved by the state board under this section.

21 (b) At least 3 credits in science that are aligned with
22 subject area content expectations developed by the department and
23 approved by the state board under this section, including
24 completion of at least biology and either chemistry, physics,
25 anatomy, or agricultural science, or successfully completing a
26 program or curriculum that provides the same content as the
27 chemistry or physics benchmarks, as determined by the department. A
28 student may fulfill the requirement for the third science credit by
29 completing a department-approved computer science program or

1 curriculum or formal career and technical education program or
 2 curriculum. The legislature strongly encourages pupils to complete
 3 a fourth credit in science, such as forensics, astronomy, Earth
 4 science, agricultural science, environmental science, geology,
 5 physics, chemistry, physiology, or microbiology.

6 (c) The credit requirements specified in section 1278a(1) (a) (i)
 7 to (iv).

8 (2) If a pupil successfully completes 1 or more of the high
 9 school credits required under subsection (1) or under section
 10 1278a(1) or (3) before entering high school, the pupil must be
 11 given high school credit for that credit.

12 (3) For the purposes of this section, ~~and~~ section 1278a, **and**
 13 **section 1278f**, the department shall do all of the following:

14 (a) Develop subject area content expectations that apply to
 15 the credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are
 16 required under subsection (1) (a) and (b) and section 1278a(1) (a) (i)
 17 and (ii) and the 1/2 credit course in personal finance required
 18 under section 1278a(3) and develop guidelines for the remaining
 19 credit requirements of the Michigan merit standard that are
 20 required under this section and section 1278a(1) (a), for the online
 21 course or learning experience required under section 1278a(1) (b),
 22 and for the requirements for a language other than English under
 23 section 1278a(2). All of the following apply to these subject area
 24 content expectations and guidelines:

25 (i) All subject area content expectations must be consistent
 26 with the state board recommended model core academic curriculum
 27 content standards under section 1278. Subject area content
 28 expectations or guidelines must not include attitudes, beliefs, or
 29 value systems that are not essential in the legal, economic, and

1 social structure of our society and to the personal and social
2 responsibility of citizens of our society. The subject area content
3 expectations must require pupils to demonstrate critical thinking
4 skills.

5 (ii) The subject area content expectations and the guidelines
6 must be approved by the state board under subsection (4).

7 (iii) The subject area content expectations must state in clear
8 and measurable terms what pupils are expected to know upon
9 completion of each credit.

10 (iv) The department shall complete the development of the
11 subject area content expectations that apply to algebra I and the
12 guidelines for the online course or learning experience under
13 section 1278a(1)(b) not later than August 1, 2006.

14 (v) The department shall complete development of the subject
15 area content expectations or guidelines that apply to each of the
16 other credits required in the Michigan merit standard under
17 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1)(a) not later than 1 year before
18 the beginning of the school year in which a pupil entering high
19 school in 2007 would normally be expected to complete the credit.

20 (vi) If the department has not completed development of the
21 subject area content expectations that apply to a particular credit
22 required in the Michigan merit standard under subsection (1) or
23 section 1278a(1)(a) by the date required under this subdivision, a
24 school district or public school academy may align the content of
25 the credit with locally adopted standards.

26 (vii) Until all of the subject area content expectations and
27 guidelines have been developed by the department and approved by
28 the state board, the department shall submit a report at least
29 every 6 months to the senate and house standing committees

1 responsible for education legislation on the status of the
2 development of the subject area content expectations and
3 guidelines. The report must detail any failure by the department to
4 meet a deadline established under subparagraph (iv) or (v) and the
5 reasons for that failure.

6 (b) Develop and implement a process for developing the subject
7 area content expectations and guidelines required under this
8 section. This process must provide for all of the following:

9 (i) Soliciting input from all of the following groups:

10 (A) Recognized experts in the relevant subject areas.

11 (B) Representatives from 4-year colleges or universities,
12 community colleges, and other postsecondary institutions.

13 (C) Teachers, administrators, and school personnel who have
14 specialized knowledge of the subject area.

15 (D) Representatives from the business community.

16 (E) Representatives from vocational and career and technical
17 education providers.

18 (F) Government officials, including officials from the
19 legislature.

20 (G) Parents of public school pupils.

21 (ii) A review of the subject area content expectations or
22 guidelines by national experts.

23 (iii) An opportunity for the public to review and provide input
24 on the proposed subject area content expectations or guidelines
25 before they are submitted to the state board for approval. The time
26 period allowed for this review and input must be at least 15
27 business days.

28 (c) Determine the basic level of technology and internet
29 access required for pupils to complete the online course or

1 learning experience requirement of section 1278a(1)(b), and submit
2 that determination to the state board for approval.

3 (d) Develop and make available material to assist school
4 districts and public school academies in implementing the
5 requirements of this section, ~~and~~ section 1278a, **and section 1278f**.
6 This must include developing guidelines for alternative
7 instructional delivery methods as described in subsection (7).

8 (4) The state board shall approve subject area content
9 expectations and guidelines developed by the department under
10 subsection (3) before those subject area content expectations and
11 guidelines may take effect. The state board also shall approve the
12 basic level of technology and internet access required for pupils
13 to complete the online course or learning experience requirement of
14 section 1278a(1)(b).

15 (5) ~~The~~ **Lastly applying to pupils entering grade 8 in 2022,**
16 **the** parent or legal guardian of a pupil who has completed grade 9,
17 a teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who currently
18 teaches in or whose expertise is in a subject area proposed to be
19 modified by the personal curriculum, or who is determined by the
20 principal to have qualifications otherwise relevant to developing a
21 personal curriculum, or a school counselor or school employee
22 qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233 or 1233a
23 may request a personal curriculum under this subsection for the
24 pupil that modifies certain ~~of the~~ Michigan merit standard
25 requirements under subsection (1) or section 1278a(1)(a). If the
26 request for a personal curriculum is made by the pupil's parent or
27 legal guardian or, if the pupil is at least age 18 or is an
28 emancipated minor, by the pupil, the school district or public
29 school academy shall develop a personal curriculum for the pupil. A

1 teacher, school counselor, or school employee qualified to act in a
 2 counseling role under section 1233 or 1233a may contact a pupil's
 3 parent or legal guardian to discuss the possibility and potential
 4 benefits of a personal curriculum under this subsection for the
 5 pupil. ~~If~~ **Lastly applying to pupils entering grade 8 in 2022, if**
 6 all of the requirements under this subsection for completing a
 7 personal curriculum are met, then the board of a school district or
 8 board of directors of a public school academy may award a high
 9 school diploma to a pupil who successfully completes his or her
 10 personal curriculum even if it does not meet the requirements of
 11 the Michigan merit standard required under subsection (1) and
 12 section 1278a(1)(a). All of the following apply to a personal
 13 curriculum **under this section:**

14 (a) The personal curriculum must be developed by a group that
 15 includes at least the pupil, at least 1 of the pupil's parents or
 16 the pupil's legal guardian, and a teacher described in this
 17 subdivision or the pupil's high school counselor or another
 18 designee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233
 19 or 1233a selected by the high school principal. In addition, for a
 20 pupil who receives special education services, a school
 21 psychologist should also be included in this group. The teacher
 22 included in the group developing the personal curriculum must be a
 23 teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who currently teaches
 24 in or whose expertise is in a subject area being modified by the
 25 personal curriculum, or who is determined by the principal to have
 26 qualifications otherwise relevant to the group. This subdivision
 27 does not require an in-person meeting of the group.

28 (b) The personal curriculum must do all of the following:

29 (i) Incorporate as much of the subject area content

1 expectations of the Michigan merit standard required under
2 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1) (a) as is practicable for the
3 pupil.

4 (ii) Establish measurable goals that the pupil must achieve
5 while enrolled in high school.

6 (iii) Provide a method to evaluate whether the pupil achieved
7 the goals described in subparagraph (ii).

8 (iv) Align with the pupil's educational development plan
9 developed under subsection (11).

10 (c) Before it takes effect, the personal curriculum must be
11 agreed to by the pupil's parent or legal guardian and by the
12 superintendent of the school district or chief executive of the
13 public school academy or his or her designee.

14 (d) The pupil's parent or legal guardian shall communicate
15 with each of the pupil's teachers to monitor the pupil's progress
16 toward the goals contained in the pupil's personal curriculum.

17 (e) Revisions may be made in the personal curriculum if the
18 revisions are developed and agreed to in the same manner as the
19 original personal curriculum.

20 (f) The English language arts credit requirements of
21 subsection (1) (a) and the science credit requirements of subsection
22 (1) (b) are not subject to modification as part of a personal
23 curriculum under this subsection.

24 (g) The mathematics credit requirements of section
25 1278a(1) (a) (i) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum if
26 the pupil successfully completes at least 3-1/2 total credits of
27 the mathematics credits required under that section before
28 completing high school, including algebra I and geometry, and
29 successfully completes at least 1 mathematics credit during his or

1 her final 2 years of high school. The algebra II credit required
 2 under that section may be modified as part of a personal curriculum
 3 under this subsection if the pupil meets 1 or more of the
 4 following:

5 (i) Successfully completes the same content as 1 semester of
 6 algebra II, as determined by the department.

7 (ii) Elects to complete the same content as algebra II over 2
 8 years, with a credit awarded for each of those 2 years, and
 9 successfully completes that content.

10 (iii) Enrolls in a formal career and technical education program
 11 or curriculum and in that program or curriculum successfully
 12 completes the same content as the algebra II benchmarks assessed on
 13 the department-prescribed state high school assessment, as
 14 determined by the department.

15 (iv) Successfully completes 1 semester of statistics, functions
 16 and data analysis, or technical mathematics.

17 (h) The social science credit requirements of section
 18 1278a(1)(a)(ii) may be modified as part of a personal curriculum
 19 only if all of the following are met:

20 (i) The pupil has successfully completed 2 credits of the
 21 social science credits required under section 1278a(1), including
 22 the civics course described in section 1166(2).

23 (ii) The modification requires the pupil to complete 1
 24 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or science
 25 or 1 additional credit in a language other than English, or
 26 requires the pupil to complete a formal career and technical
 27 education program. This additional credit ~~must be~~ **is** in addition to
 28 the number of those credits otherwise required under subsection (1)
 29 and section 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

1 (i) The health and physical education credit requirement under
2 section 1278a(1) (a) *(iii)* may be modified as part of a personal
3 curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil to complete
4 1 additional credit in English language arts, mathematics, or
5 science or 1 additional credit in a language other than English, or
6 requires the pupil to complete a ~~formal~~**state-approved** career and
7 technical education program. This additional credit ~~must be~~**is** in
8 addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under
9 subsection (1) and section 1278a(1) or under section 1278a(2).

10 (j) The visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts credit
11 requirement under section 1278a(1) (a) *(iv)* may be modified as part of
12 a personal curriculum only if the modification requires the pupil
13 to complete 1 additional credit in English language arts,
14 mathematics, or science or 1 additional credit in a language other
15 than English, or requires the pupil to complete a ~~formal~~**state-**
16 **approved** career and technical education program. This additional
17 credit ~~must be~~**is** in addition to the number of those credits
18 otherwise required under subsection (1) and section 1278a(1) or
19 under section 1278a(2).

20 (k) If the parent or legal guardian of a pupil requests as
21 part of the pupil's personal curriculum a modification of the
22 Michigan merit standard requirements that would not otherwise be
23 allowed under this section and demonstrates that the modification
24 is necessary because the pupil is a child with a disability, the
25 school district or public school academy may allow that additional
26 modification to the extent necessary because of the pupil's
27 disability if the group under subdivision (a) determines that the
28 modification is consistent with both the pupil's educational
29 development plan under subsection (11) and the pupil's

1 individualized education program. If the superintendent of public
2 instruction has reason to believe that a school district or a
3 public school academy is allowing modifications inconsistent with
4 the requirements of this subdivision, the superintendent of public
5 instruction shall monitor the school district or public school
6 academy to ensure that the school district's or public school
7 academy's policies, procedures, and practices are in compliance
8 with the requirements for additional modifications under this
9 subdivision. As used in this subdivision, "child with a disability"
10 means that term as defined in 20 USC 1401.

11 (l) If a pupil transfers to a school district or public school
12 academy from out of state or from a nonpublic school, the pupil's
13 parent or legal guardian may request, as part of the pupil's
14 personal curriculum, a modification of the Michigan merit standard
15 requirements that would not otherwise be allowed under this
16 section. The school district or public school academy may allow
17 this additional modification for a transfer pupil if all of the
18 following are met:

19 (i) The transfer pupil has successfully completed at least the
20 equivalent of 2 years of high school credit out of state or at a
21 nonpublic school. The school district or public school academy may
22 use appropriate assessment examinations to determine what credits,
23 if any, the pupil has earned out of state or at a nonpublic school
24 that may be used to satisfy the curricular requirements of the
25 Michigan merit standard and this subdivision.

26 (ii) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum incorporates as
27 much of the subject area content expectations of the Michigan merit
28 standard as is practicable for the pupil.

29 (iii) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum requires the

1 pupil to successfully complete at least 1 mathematics course during
2 his or her final year of high school enrollment. In addition, if
3 the transfer pupil is enrolled in the school district or public
4 school academy for at least 1 full school year, both of the
5 following apply:

6 (A) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum must require that
7 this mathematics course is at least algebra I.

8 (B) If the transfer pupil demonstrates that he or she has
9 mastered the content of algebra I, the transfer pupil's personal
10 curriculum must require that this mathematics course is a course
11 normally taken after completing algebra I.

12 (iv) The transfer pupil's personal curriculum includes the
13 civics course described in section 1166(2).

14 (m) If a pupil is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor,
15 the pupil may act on his or her own behalf under this subsection.

16 (n) This subsection does not apply to a pupil enrolled in a
17 high school that is designated as a specialty school under section
18 1278a(6) and that is exempt under that section from the English
19 language arts requirement under subsection (1)(a) and the social
20 science credit requirement under section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

21 (o) The department or a school district or public school
22 academy shall not limit or discourage the number of pupils with a
23 personal curriculum on any basis other than the best interests of
24 each individual pupil.

25 (p) A school district or public school academy annually shall
26 notify each of its pupils and a parent or legal guardian of each of
27 its pupils that all pupils are entitled to a personal curriculum
28 under this subsection. The annual notice must include an
29 explanation of what a personal curriculum is and state that if a

1 personal curriculum is requested, the ~~public~~-school **district** or
2 public school academy will grant that request. The school district
3 or public school academy shall provide this annual notice to
4 parents and legal guardians by sending a written notice to each
5 pupil's home or by including the notice in a newsletter, student
6 handbook, or similar communication that is sent to a pupil's home,
7 and also shall post the notice on the school district's or public
8 school academy's website.

9 (6) If a pupil receives special education services, the
10 pupil's individualized education program, in accordance with the
11 individuals with disabilities education act, title VI of Public Law
12 91-230, must identify the appropriate course or courses of study
13 and identify the supports, accommodations, and modifications
14 necessary to allow the pupil to progress in the curricular
15 requirements of this section and section 1278a, or in a personal
16 curriculum as provided under subsection (5) ~~or~~ **section 1278f**, and
17 meet the requirements for a high school diploma.

18 (7) The board of a school district or board of directors of a
19 public school academy that operates a high school shall ensure that
20 each pupil is offered the curriculum necessary for the pupil to
21 meet the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a.
22 The board or board of directors may provide this curriculum by
23 providing the credits specified in this section and section 1278a,
24 by using alternative instructional delivery methods such as
25 alternative course work, humanities course sequences, career and
26 technical education, industrial technology courses, or vocational
27 education, or by a combination of these. School districts and
28 public school academies that operate career and technical education
29 programs are encouraged to integrate the credit requirements of

1 this section and section 1278a into those programs.

2 (8) If the board of a school district or board of directors of
3 a public school academy wants its high school to be accredited
4 under section 1280, the board or board of directors shall ensure
5 that all elements of the curriculum required under this section and
6 section 1278a are made available to all affected pupils. If a
7 school district or public school academy does not offer all of the
8 required credits, the board of the school district or board of
9 directors of the public school academy shall ensure that the pupil
10 has access to the required credits by another means, such as
11 enrollment in a postsecondary course under the postsecondary
12 enrollment options act, 1996 PA 160, MCL 388.511 to 388.524;
13 enrollment in an online course; a cooperative arrangement with a
14 neighboring school district or with a public school academy; or
15 granting approval under section 6(6) of the state school aid act of
16 1979, MCL 388.1606, for the pupil to be counted in membership in
17 another school district.

18 (9) If a pupil is not successfully completing a credit
19 required for graduation under this section and section 1278a, or is
20 identified as being at risk of withdrawing from high school, then
21 the pupil's school district or public school academy shall notify
22 the pupil's parent or legal guardian or, if the pupil is at least
23 age 18 or is an emancipated minor, the pupil, of the availability
24 of tutoring or other supplemental educational support and
25 counseling services that may be available to the pupil under
26 existing state or federal programs, such as those programs or
27 services available under section 31a of the state school aid act of
28 1979, MCL 388.1631a, or under the no child left behind act of 2001,
29 Public Law 107-110, or every student succeeds act, Public Law 114-

1 95.

2 (10) To the extent required by the no child left behind act of
3 2001, Public Law 107-110, or every student succeeds act, Public Law
4 114-95, the board of a school district or public school academy
5 shall ensure that all components of the curricular requirements
6 under this section and section 1278a are taught by highly qualified
7 teachers. If a school district or public school academy
8 demonstrates to the department that the school district or public
9 school academy is unable to meet the requirements of this section
10 because the school district or public school academy is unable to
11 hire enough highly qualified teachers, the department shall work
12 with the school district or public school academy to develop a plan
13 to allow the school district or public school academy to hire
14 enough highly qualified teachers to meet the requirements of this
15 section.

16 (11) The board of a school district or board of directors of a
17 public school academy shall provide the opportunity for each pupil
18 to develop an educational development plan during grade 7, and
19 shall ensure that each pupil reviews his or her educational
20 development plan during grade 8 and revises it as appropriate
21 before he or she begins high school. The board of a school district
22 or board of directors of a public school academy shall also ensure
23 that each pupil reviews and revises his or her educational
24 development plan as appropriate during each year of high school. An
25 educational development plan must be developed, reviewed, and
26 revised by the pupil under the supervision of the pupil's school
27 counselor or another designee qualified to act in a counseling role
28 under section 1233 or 1233a selected by the school principal and
29 must be based on high school readiness scores and a career pathways

1 program or similar career exploration program. An educational
2 development plan must be designed to assist pupils to identify
3 career development goals as they relate to academic requirements.
4 During the process of developing and reviewing a pupil's
5 educational development plan, the pupil must be advised that many
6 of the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a
7 may be fulfilled through career and technical education. In
8 addition, during the process of developing and reviewing an
9 educational development plan, the pupil must be provided with all
10 of the following:

11 (a) Information on various types of careers and current and
12 projected job openings in this state and those jobs' actual and
13 projected wages.

14 (b) An opportunity to explore careers specific to a pupil's
15 interests and identify career pathways and goals for achieving
16 success in those careers, including, but not limited to, the level
17 and type of educational preparation necessary to accomplish those
18 goals.

19 (c) An opportunity to develop a talent portfolio. A talent
20 portfolio must be developed and revised throughout the
21 implementation of a pupil's educational development plan. A talent
22 portfolio must include, but is not limited to, a record of the
23 pupil's experiences, proficiencies, certifications, or
24 accomplishments that demonstrate talents or marketable skills. The
25 department, in conjunction with the department of labor and
26 economic opportunity, shall develop and make available to the
27 public schools model information materials that districts or public
28 school academies may use to comply with this subdivision.

29 (12) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, if a

1 school district or public school academy is unable to implement all
2 of the curricular requirements of this section and section 1278a
3 for pupils entering grade 9 in 2007 or is unable to implement
4 another requirement of this section or section 1278a, the school
5 district or public school academy may apply to the department for
6 permission to phase in 1 or more of the requirements of this
7 section or section 1278a. To apply, the school district or public
8 school academy shall submit a proposed phase-in plan to the
9 department. The department shall approve a phase-in plan if the
10 department determines that the plan will result in the school
11 district or public school academy making satisfactory progress
12 toward full implementation of the requirements of this section and
13 section 1278a. If the department disapproves a proposed phase-in
14 plan, the department shall work with the school district or public
15 school academy to develop a satisfactory plan that may be approved.
16 This subsection does not apply to a high school that is designated
17 as a specialty school under section 1278a(6) and that is exempt
18 under that section from the English language arts requirement under
19 subsection (1)(a) and the social science credit requirement under
20 section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

21 (13) This section and section 1278a do not prohibit a pupil
22 from satisfying or exceeding the credit requirements of the
23 Michigan merit standard under this section and section 1278a
24 through advanced studies such as accelerated course placement,
25 advanced placement, dual enrollment in a postsecondary institution,
26 or participation in the international baccalaureate program or an
27 early college/middle college program.

28 (14) Not later than April 1 of each year, the department shall
29 submit an annual report to the legislature that evaluates the

1 overall success of the curriculum required under this section and
2 section 1278a, the rigor and relevance of the course work required
3 by the curriculum, the ability of public schools to implement the
4 curriculum and the required course work, and the impact of the
5 curriculum on pupil success, and that details any activities the
6 department has undertaken to implement this section and section
7 1278a or to assist public schools in implementing the requirements
8 of this section and section 1278a.

9 Sec. 1278c. (1) If a school district, intermediate school
10 district, or public school academy requests information from the
11 department on career and technical education programs or other
12 programs described in section 1278b that may be available or that
13 may be used to help fulfill the requirements of sections 1278a and
14 1278b, the department shall provide that information within a
15 reasonable time. In addition, the department shall compile and post
16 on its website all of the following information concerning best
17 practices in career and technical education:

18 (a) A detailed description of the ways that career and
19 technical education may be used to help fulfill the requirements of
20 sections 1278a and 1278b, including, but not limited to, the role
21 of career and technical education in a personal curriculum under
22 section 1278b **or 1278f**.

23 (b) Information highlighting and describing successful career
24 and technical education programs being operated by school districts
25 and intermediate school districts.

26 (c) A listing and description of the various types of career
27 and technical education programs that are provided around this
28 state and the subject areas and disciplines that are covered by
29 these programs.

1 (d) Illustrations of how school districts, intermediate school
2 districts, and public school academies can and do work with local
3 business entities, public-private partnerships, trade
4 organizations, nonprofit organizations, state licensed proprietary
5 schools, universities, or community colleges to provide quality
6 career and technical education.

7 (e) The various ways in which school districts and public
8 school academies have embedded the course content from credits
9 required under the Michigan merit standard under sections 1278a and
10 1278b into career and technical education and other alternative
11 instructional delivery methods in order to deliver the curricular
12 requirements of sections 1278a and 1278b.

13 (2) As part of the process of developing an educational
14 development plan under section 1278b, the board of a school
15 district or board of directors of a public school academy shall
16 ensure that pupils are provided with ~~all~~**both** of the following:

17 (a) Information about how they can fulfill the requirements of
18 sections 1278a and 1278b with career and technical education or
19 another program approved by the department.

20 (b) The most recent analysis of in-demand occupations in the
21 region in which the school district, intermediate school district,
22 or public school academy is located, provided by the department of
23 technology, management, and budget, bureau of labor market
24 information and strategic initiatives. The information regarding
25 in-demand occupations may be provided to pupils electronically.

26 (3) Not later than September 1 of each year, the department of
27 technology, management, and budget shall publish on its website and
28 send to school districts, intermediate school districts, and public
29 school academies the most recent analysis of in-demand occupations

1 described in subsection (2) (b).

2 (4) School districts, ~~public school academies,~~ and
3 intermediate school districts, **and public school academies** are
4 strongly encouraged to establish programs in which, upon completion
5 of the program and graduation from high school, the completion of
6 the program is credited toward achievement of a professional
7 certificate, training, apprenticeship, or college credit in a
8 specific career and technical field.

9 (5) As used in this section, "state licensed proprietary
10 school" means a proprietary school licensed under the proprietary
11 schools act, 1943 PA 148, MCL 395.101 to 395.103.

12 **Sec. 1278f. (1) Beginning with pupils entering grade 8 in**
13 **2023, the parent or legal guardian of a pupil who has completed**
14 **grade 9, a teacher who is currently teaching the pupil, who**
15 **currently teaches in or whose expertise is in a subject area**
16 **proposed to be modified by the twenty-first century skills**
17 **curriculum, or who is determined by the principal to have**
18 **qualifications otherwise relevant to developing a twenty-first**
19 **century skills curriculum, or a school counselor or school employee**
20 **qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233 or 1233a**
21 **may request a twenty-first century skills curriculum under this**
22 **section for the pupil that modifies certain Michigan merit standard**
23 **requirements under section 1278a(1) (a) or section 1278b(1) or**
24 **requirements under section 1278a(2). If the request for a twenty-**
25 **first century skills curriculum is made by the pupil's parent or**
26 **legal guardian or, if the pupil is at least age 18 or is an**
27 **emancipated minor, by the pupil, the school district or public**
28 **school academy shall develop a twenty-first century skills**
29 **curriculum for the pupil. A teacher, school counselor, or school**

1 employee qualified to act in a counseling role under section 1233
2 or 1233a may contact a pupil's parent or legal guardian to discuss
3 the possibility and potential benefits of a twenty-first century
4 skills curriculum under this section for the pupil. If all of the
5 requirements under this section for completing a twenty-first
6 century skills curriculum are met, then the board of a school
7 district or board of directors of a public school academy may award
8 a high school diploma to a pupil who successfully completes his or
9 her twenty-first century skills curriculum even if it does not meet
10 the requirements of the Michigan merit standard required under
11 section 1278a(1)(a) and section 1278b(1) and requirements under
12 section 1278a(2). All of the following apply to a twenty-first
13 century skills curriculum under this section:

14 (a) The twenty-first century skills curriculum must be
15 developed by at least a teacher described in this subdivision or
16 the pupil's high school counselor or another designee qualified to
17 act in a counseling role under section 1233 or 1233a selected by
18 the high school principal. In addition, for a pupil who receives
19 special education services, a school psychologist should also be
20 included in the development of the twenty-first century skills
21 curriculum. A teacher who develops the twenty-first century skills
22 curriculum must be a teacher who is currently teaching the pupil,
23 who currently teaches in or whose expertise is in a subject area
24 being modified by the twenty-first century skills curriculum, or
25 who is determined by the principal to have qualifications that are
26 otherwise relevant. This subdivision does not require an in-person
27 meeting.

28 (b) Credits required in a pupil's twenty-first century skills
29 curriculum under this section are not required to fully be aligned

1 with subject area content expectations developed by the department
2 and approved by the state board under section 1278b if all of the
3 following are met:

4 (i) The pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum under
5 this section incorporates as much of the subject area content
6 expectations of the Michigan merit standard required under section
7 1278a(1) (a) and section 1278b(1) as is practicable for the pupil.

8 (ii) The pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum under
9 this section establishes measurable goals that the pupil must
10 achieve while enrolled in high school.

11 (iii) The pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum under
12 this section provides for a method to evaluate whether the pupil
13 has achieved the measurable goals described in subparagraph (ii) .

14 (iv) The pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum under
15 this section aligns with the pupil's educational development plan
16 under section 1278b(11) .

17 (c) Before it takes effect, the twenty-first century skills
18 curriculum must be approved by the superintendent of the school
19 district or chief executive of the public school academy or his or
20 her designee and the pupil's parent or legal guardian must be
21 notified of the approved twenty-first century skills curriculum.

22 (d) The pupil's parent or legal guardian shall communicate
23 with each of the pupil's teachers to monitor the pupil's progress
24 toward the goals contained in the pupil's twenty-first century
25 skills curriculum.

26 (e) Revisions may be made in the twenty-first century skills
27 curriculum if the revisions are developed and approved in the same
28 manner as the original twenty-first century skills curriculum.

29 (f) Subject to subdivision (p), the mathematics and social

1 science credit requirements under section 1278a and the science and
2 English language arts credit requirements under section 1278b(1)
3 may be modified as part of a twenty-first century skills curriculum
4 as follows:

5 (i) Not more than a total of 2 of the credit requirements
6 described in this subdivision may be modified under this section.

7 (ii) Not more than 1 credit requirement described in this
8 subdivision may be modified under this section for each subject
9 area described in this subdivision.

10 (iii) Subject to subparagraphs (i) and (ii), a credit of any of
11 the credit requirements described in this subdivision may be
12 modified if the pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum
13 requires that the pupil complete any of the following in place of
14 that credit:

15 (A) A credit in mathematics, social science, science, or
16 English language arts that, except as otherwise provided under
17 subdivision (b), is aligned with subject area content expectations
18 developed by the department and approved by the state board under
19 section 1278b for such a credit. A credit applied under this sub-
20 subparagraph is in addition to the number of those credits
21 otherwise required under section 1278a or 1278b(1).

22 (B) A credit in a subject matter that includes both health and
23 physical education aligned with guidelines developed by the
24 department and approved by the state board under section 1278b for
25 such a credit. A credit applied under this sub-subparagraph is in
26 addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under
27 section 1278a.

28 (C) A credit in visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts,
29 as defined by the department, aligned with guidelines developed by

1 the department and approved by the state board under section 1278b
2 for such a credit. A credit applied under this sub-subparagraph is
3 in addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under
4 section 1278a.

5 (D) A credit in a language other than English aligned with
6 guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state
7 board under section 1278b for such a credit. A credit applied under
8 this sub-subparagraph is in addition to the number of those credits
9 otherwise required under section 1278a.

10 (E) A credit obtained through a computer science program or
11 computer coding program that aligns with the recommended model core
12 academic curriculum content standards under section 1278.

13 (F) A credit obtained through a state-approved career and
14 technical education program.

15 (g) A credit of the health and physical education, visual
16 arts, performing arts, or applied arts, and language other than
17 English credit requirements under section 1278a may be modified if
18 the pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum requires that
19 the pupil complete any of the following in place of that credit:

20 (i) A credit in mathematics, social science, science, or
21 English language arts that, except as otherwise provided under
22 subdivision (b), is aligned with subject area content expectations
23 developed by the department and approved by the state board under
24 section 1278b for such a credit. A credit applied under this
25 subparagraph is in addition to the number of those credits
26 otherwise required under section 1278a or section 1278b(1).

27 (ii) A credit in a subject matter that includes both health and
28 physical education aligned with guidelines developed by the
29 department and approved by the state board under section 1278b for

1 such a credit. A credit applied under this subparagraph is in
2 addition to the number of those credits otherwise required under
3 section 1278a.

4 (iii) A credit in visual arts, performing arts, or applied arts,
5 as defined by the department, that is aligned with guidelines
6 developed by the department and approved by the state board under
7 section 1278b for such a credit. A credit applied under this
8 subparagraph is in addition to the number of those credits
9 otherwise required under section 1278a.

10 (iv) A credit in a language other than English aligned with
11 guidelines developed by the department and approved by the state
12 board under section 1278b for such a credit. A credit applied under
13 this subparagraph is in addition to the number of those credits
14 otherwise required under section 1278a.

15 (v) A credit obtained through a computer science program or
16 computer coding program that aligns with the recommended model core
17 academic curriculum content standards under section 1278.

18 (vi) A credit obtained through a state-approved career and
19 technical education program.

20 (h) If a pupil is enrolled in a state-approved career and
21 technical education program or curriculum, the pupil may modify the
22 health and physical education credit requirements under section
23 1278a through his or her twenty-first century skills curriculum, if
24 the twenty-first century skills curriculum requires, in place of a
25 1/2 credit in physical education, that the pupil complete a 30-hour
26 educational training course designed by the Occupational Safety and
27 Health Administration within the United States Department of Labor
28 relating to occupational safety and health standards applicable to
29 general industry or construction.

1 (i) If the parent or legal guardian of a pupil requests as
2 part of the pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum a
3 modification of the Michigan merit standard requirements that would
4 not otherwise be allowed under this section and demonstrates that
5 the modification is necessary because the pupil is a child with a
6 disability, the school district or public school academy may allow
7 that additional modification to the extent necessary because of the
8 pupil's disability if the individual or individuals who develop the
9 twenty-first century skills curriculum under subdivision (a)
10 determines or determine that the modification is consistent with
11 both the pupil's educational development plan under section
12 1278b(11) and the pupil's individualized education program. If the
13 superintendent of public instruction has reason to believe that a
14 school district or a public school academy is allowing
15 modifications inconsistent with the requirements of this
16 subdivision, the superintendent of public instruction shall monitor
17 the school district or public school academy to ensure that the
18 school district's or public school academy's policies, procedures,
19 and practices are in compliance with the requirements for
20 additional modifications under this subdivision. As used in this
21 subdivision, "child with a disability" means that term as defined
22 in 20 USC 1401.

23 (j) If a pupil transfers to a school district or public school
24 academy from out of state or from a nonpublic school, the pupil's
25 parent or legal guardian may request, as part of the pupil's
26 twenty-first century skills curriculum, a modification of the
27 Michigan merit standard requirements that would not otherwise be
28 allowed under this section. The school district or public school
29 academy may allow this additional modification for a transfer pupil

1 if all of the following are met:

2 (i) The transfer pupil has successfully completed at least the
3 equivalent of 2 years of high school credit out of state or at a
4 nonpublic school. The school district or public school academy may
5 use appropriate assessment examinations to determine what credits,
6 if any, the pupil has earned out of state or at a nonpublic school
7 that may be used to satisfy the curricular requirements of the
8 Michigan merit standard and this subdivision.

9 (ii) The transfer pupil's twenty-first century skills
10 curriculum incorporates as much of the subject area content
11 expectations of the Michigan merit standard as is practicable for
12 the pupil.

13 (iii) The transfer pupil's twenty-first century skills
14 curriculum requires the pupil to successfully complete at least 1
15 mathematics course during his or her final year of high school
16 enrollment. In addition, if the transfer pupil is enrolled in the
17 school district or public school academy for at least 1 full school
18 year, both of the following apply:

19 (A) The transfer pupil's twenty-first century skills
20 curriculum requires that this mathematics course is at least
21 algebra I.

22 (B) If the transfer pupil demonstrates that he or she has
23 mastered the content of algebra I, the transfer pupil's twenty-
24 first century skills curriculum requires that this mathematics
25 course is a course normally taken after completing algebra I.

26 (iv) The transfer pupil's twenty-first century skills
27 curriculum includes the civics course described in section 1166(2).

28 (k) If a pupil is at least age 18 or is an emancipated minor,
29 the pupil may act on his or her own behalf under this section.

1 (l) This section does not apply to a pupil enrolled in a high
2 school that is designated as a specialty school under section
3 1278a(5) and that is exempt under that section from the English
4 language arts requirement under section 1278b(1)(a) and the social
5 science credit requirement under section 1278a(1)(a)(ii).

6 (m) The department or a school district or public school
7 academy shall not limit or discourage the number of pupils with a
8 twenty-first century skills curriculum on any basis other than the
9 best interests of each individual pupil.

10 (n) A school district or public school academy annually shall
11 notify each of its pupils and a parent or legal guardian of each of
12 its pupils that all pupils are entitled to a twenty-first century
13 skills curriculum under this section. The annual notice must
14 include an explanation of what a twenty-first century skills
15 curriculum is and state that if a twenty-first century skills
16 curriculum is requested, the school district or public school
17 academy will grant that request. The school district or public
18 school academy shall provide this annual notice to parents and
19 legal guardians by sending a written notice to each pupil's home or
20 by including the notice in a newsletter, student handbook, or
21 similar communication that is sent to a pupil's home, and also
22 shall post the notice on the school district's or public school
23 academy's website.

24 (o) A pupil's twenty-first century skills curriculum must be
25 aligned with the pupil's educational development plan under section
26 1278b(11) and must be designed so as to allow the pupil to
27 incorporate his or her twenty-first century skills curriculum into
28 his or her educational development plan under section 1278b(11).

29 (p) A pupil who modifies certain credit requirements through a

1 twenty-first century skills curriculum under subdivision (f) must
2 still be required to complete the civics course described in
3 section 1166(2).

4 (2) The department, in conjunction with the department of
5 labor and economic opportunity and stakeholder groups, shall
6 develop and make available to all school districts and public
7 school academies model information materials that school districts
8 and public school academies may use to implement and streamline the
9 twenty-first century skills-curriculum-development process under
10 this section. These materials must be posted on the department's
11 website and must be made widely available to the parents and legal
12 guardians of pupils, pupils, teachers, school counselors, and other
13 school district and public school academy employees. It is the
14 intent of the legislature that the materials described in this
15 subsection be designed to assist the parents and legal guardians of
16 pupils, pupils, and public schools to more easily develop a twenty-
17 first century skills curriculum under this section. At a minimum,
18 the materials described in this subsection must include models for
19 all of the following:

20 (a) Incorporating a pupil's twenty-first century skills
21 curriculum into his or her educational development plan as provided
22 under subsection (1)(o).

23 (b) Integrating the process of developing a twenty-first
24 century skills curriculum under this section into a school's
25 standard course-scheduling process and the annual educational
26 development plan review and revision process required under section
27 1278b(11).

28 (c) Pathways that provide school districts and public school
29 academies with the most commonly utilized educational tracks for

1 pupils to adopt as their twenty-first century skills curriculum.