



# HCPS Graduation Requirements

*November 14, 2022*

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Katie Ridgway, *Director of Strategic Initiatives*

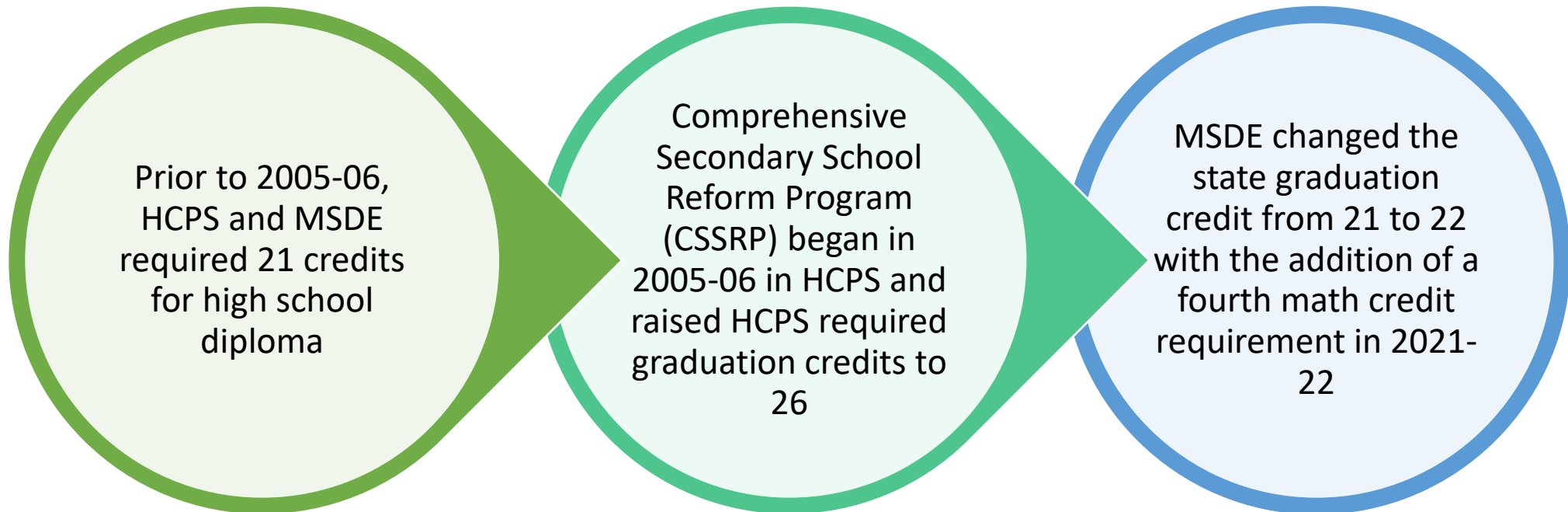
Sara Saacks, *Coord. Of North Star & School Performance*  
Rob Limpert, *Sup. of Magnet & CTE Programs*

Kay Malone, *Supervisor of School Counseling*

# Why the Shift

- *Increase opportunities* for students
- *Reduce barriers for students* by providing less requirements and more flexibility
- *Shift requirements to add flexibility* for early college, apprenticeships, non-credit dual enrollment programs, workforce development that will work for ALL interested students

# Historical Perspective



# Historical Perspective

## Comprehensive Secondary School Reform Program 2005-06

Equalized credit offerings at high schools

Increased credits for graduation from 21 to 26

Required a fourth math credit in high school

Implemented magnet programs at select schools

Created career pathways of required courses for students who are not in CTE programs in high schools

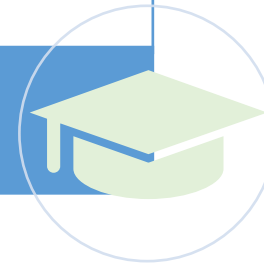
Created freshman course, *Living in a Contemporary World*

# MD Graduation Requirement


- 4 credits of English
- 4 credits of Math
- 3 credits of Social Studies
- 3 credits of Science
- 1 credit Technology
- 1 credit Health
- 1 credit Fine Art
- ½ credit Physical Education
- 2 credits in World Language or 4 credits in CTE
- Elective credits up to 22 total credits



**22 Total**

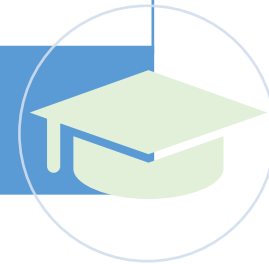


# Current Local Requirements

- 22 Credits required by the State
-  **Plus**
- An additional ½ credit in PE
- 4 credits of a pathway if the student is not enrolled in a CTE
- Elective credits up to 26 total credits



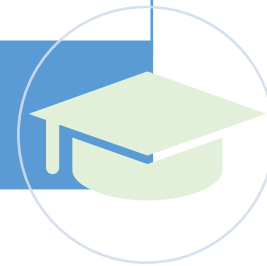
**26 Total**



# Statewide Comparison

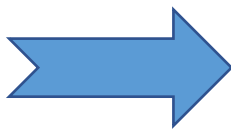

- 11 require 22-22.5 credits total
- 2 require 23-23.5 credits total
- 4 require 24 credits total
- 4 require 25 credits total
- 3 require 26 total (Harford, Anne Arundel, Queen Anne's)

24 School Systems in MD



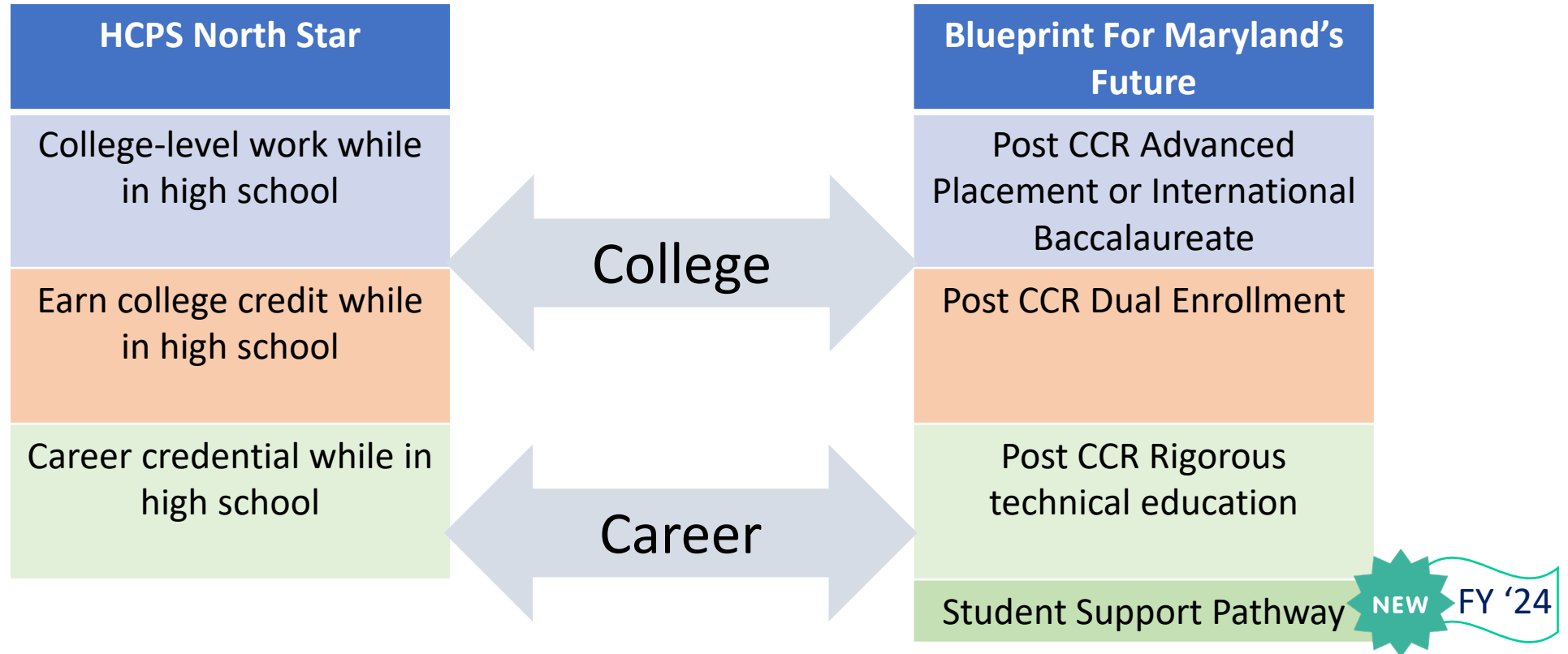
# Proposed Local Requirements

In order to increase opportunities for students and reduce barriers, our proposed shift includes:

-  Shift the overall credit requirement from 26 to 24
-  Eliminate the local pathway requirement



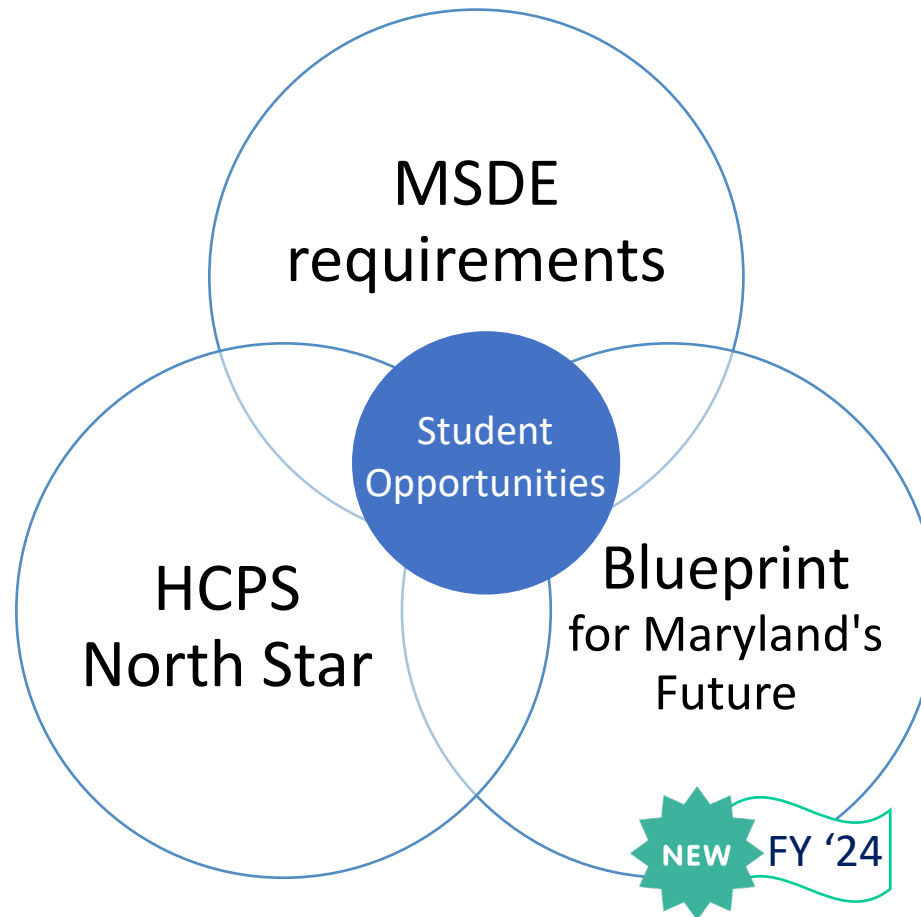
# Current Initiatives



# Alignment

## Board of Education Goal 1:

*Prepare every student for success in postsecondary education and career.*



HCPS  
Historical  
Local  
Pathways

# Opportunities

**Board of Education Goal 1:**  
*Prepare every student for  
success in postsecondary  
education and career.*

Increases ability to expand and create new opportunities for:

- Dual enrollment, dual credit
- Magnet programs
- Apprenticeships
- Internships
- Harford Investment Program
- Blueprint Support Pathway
- Meet learner attributes

More student options, personalization in choosing electives

Future-ready thinking and planning

# Opportunities

## LaBella Pet Boutique

- Mia Coleman – NRAS Junior with Monica Taylor - Owner



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# Opportunities

## Workforce Investment Program



- *Partnership* with Harford County Public Schools and Harford Community College
- Students participate in noncredit, *career-ready training* programs focused on labor market needs
- Students earn *industry recognized certifications*

# Opportunities

## Workforce Investment Program



*2021-22 – 3 Programs*

*2022-23 - 5 Programs*

# Example

**Student A**

**26 Credits**

9	10	11	12
English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	Statistics
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Elective
Government	World History	U.S. History	Elective
PE/Health 1	PE/Health 2	Elective	Elective
Spanish 1	Spanish 2	Elective	Elective
Fine Art Prep	Foundations of Technology	Elective	Elective
Pathway Course 1	Pathway Course 2	Pathway Course 3	Pathway Course 4



# Example

**Student A**

**24 Credits**

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PE/Health 1	PE/Health 2	Elective	Elective
Spanish 1	Spanish 2	Elective	Elective
Fine Art Prep	Elective	Elective	Elective
Foundations of Technology	Elective	Elective	Elective



# Example

## Student A Side-by-Side

### Student A- 26 Credits

9	10	11	12
English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	Statistics
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Elective
Government	World History	U.S. History	Elective
PE/Health 1	PE/Health 2	Elective	Elective
Spanish 1	Spanish 2	Elective	Elective
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Government	World History	U.S. History	Elective
PE/Health 1	PE/Health 2	Elective	Elective
Spanish 1	Spanish 2	Elective	Elective
Fine Art Prep	Elective	Elective	Elective
Foundations of Technology	Elective	Elective	Elective

# Example

**Student B**

**26 Credits**

9	10	11	12
English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	Statistics
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Fine Art Prep
Government	World History	U.S. History	Elective
PE/Health 1	PE/Health 2	Spanish 1	Spanish 2
Strategic Reading	Strategic Reading	Foundations of Technology	Elective
Intro to Algebra	Geometry Support	Algebra 2 Support	Elective
Pathway Course 1	Pathway Course 2	Pathway Course 3	Pathway Course 4

# Example

**Student B**

**24 Credits**

9	10	11	12
English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	Statistics
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Elective
Government	World History	U.S. History	Elective
PE/Health 1	PE/Health 2	Elective	Elective
Strategic Reading	Strategic Reading	Foundations of Technology	Elective
Intro to Algebra	Geometry Support	Algebra 2 Support	Elective
Fine Art Prep	Spanish 1	Spanish 2	Elective

# Example

## Student B Side-by-Side

### Student B- 26 Credits

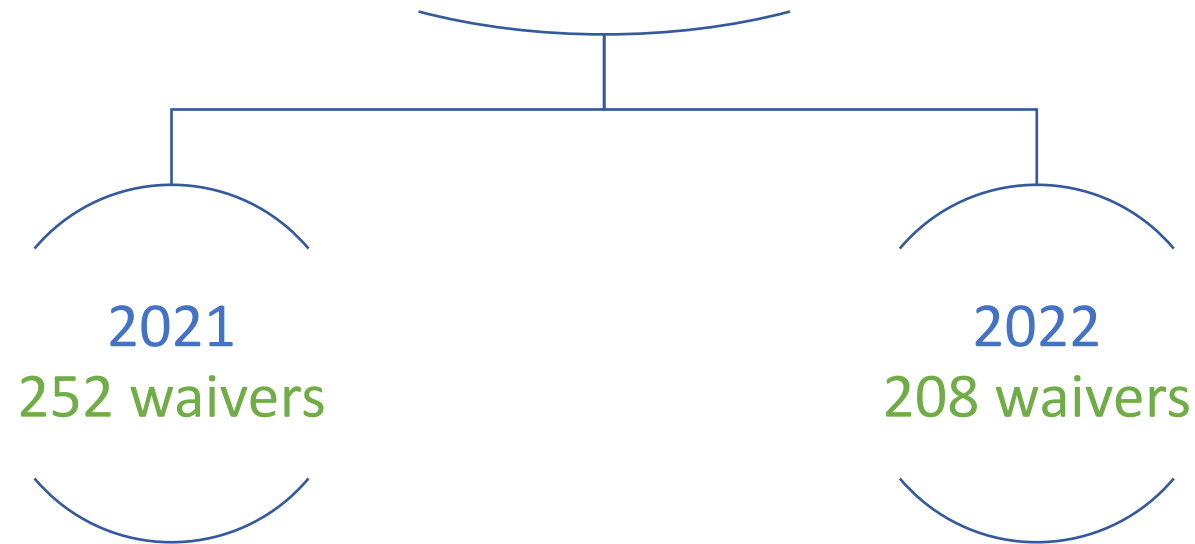
9	10	11	12
English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	Statistics
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Fine Art Prep
Government	World History	U.S. History	Elective
PE/Health 1	PE/Health 2	Spanish 1	Spanish 2
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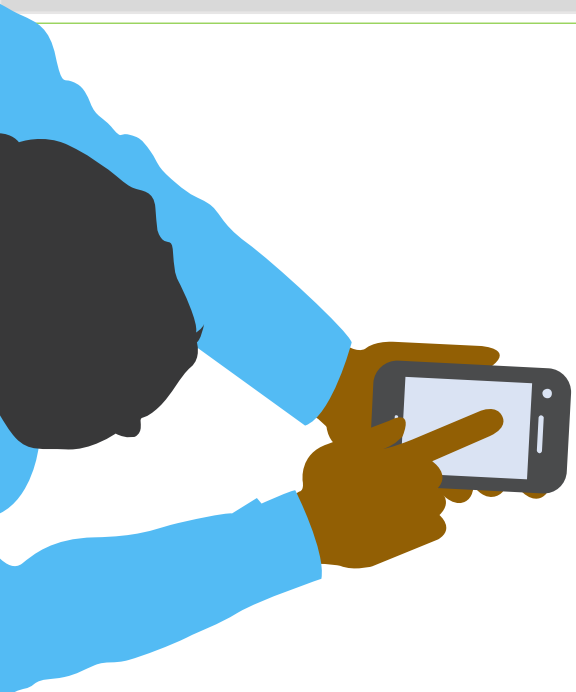
### Student B- 24 Credits

9	10	11	12
English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12
Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	Statistics
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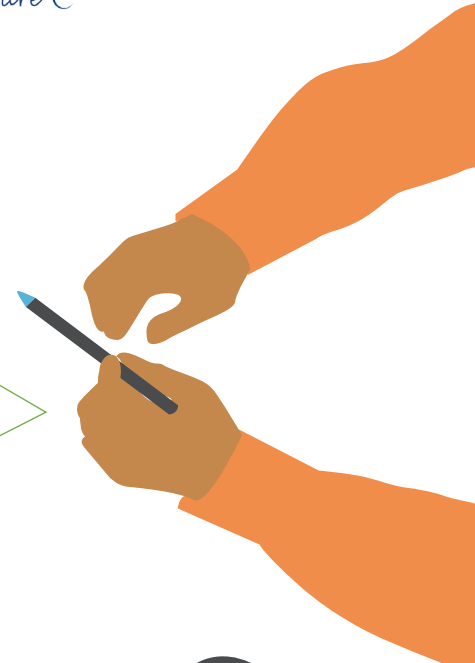
# Meeting Students Needs

Waivers are granted for local pathway graduation requirements due to numerous **individual** circumstances, such as moving from out of state senior year.







"Forging ahead,  
how can we  
remove restrictions  
and increase access  
for all of our  
students?"



"My experience with the pathways  
were a huge scheduling problem. The  
kids pick their own at school without  
parental input. If they change their  
mind, they are stuck. My daughter  
chose music and was forced to  
participate in band, so her pathway  
took up more of her schedule during  
and after school."



"I am excited how Blueprint  
gives us reason to think with  
a more innovative mindset,  
which can break down some  
of the 'but that's the way  
we've always done it' or the  
'good enough' narrative."



"The local graduation  
requirement of a 4-  
credit pathway is a  
barrier for students."

# Next Steps

**Board of Education Goal 1:**  
*Prepare every student for  
success in postsecondary  
education and career.*



Parent and student feedback since 2006

Principals

Blueprint North Star Sub-Committee

Admin & Instructional Leadership Group



Harford Business Education Roundtable

Instructional Leadership Team

Senior Staff



Parent Advisory Members

Board of Education

Public Comment



We are  
here