

State Board of Regents Approves Moving to 65
As Regents Exam Passing Score, Adding Appeals Process

A major change in requirements for the passing of Regents examinations will occur for students who enter ninth grade in fall 2005 and thereafter. These changes are outlined below. Students and parents are urged to consider the changes carefully, and to contact a member of the Coxsackie-Athens Central School administrative staff with any questions.

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Superintendent of Schools

The following excerpt is drawn from a Press Release issued by the New York State Education Department.

On June 21, 2005, “. . . the State Board of Regents approved moving to 65 as the passing score for Regents Exams. The transition would be phased in as follows:

- **For students entering 9th grade in 2005:** General education students must have at least two scores at 65 or above on the five required Regents exams and all scores at 55 or above.
- **For students entering 9th grade in 2006:** General education students must have at least three scores at 65 or above on the five required Regents exams and all scores at 55 or above.
- **For students entering 9th grade in 2007:** General education students must have at least four scores at 65 or above on the five required Regents exams and all scores at 55 or above.
- **For students entering 9th grade in 2008:** General education students must pass all five required Regents exams at a score of 65 or above.

Students would also be required, as before, to pass their courses and earn 22 course credits.”

Further, the Press Release describes a process for students who had some difficulty being successful on Regents examinations.

“The Regents also approved an appeals process in which students who score within three points of 65 and have achieved the standards would be eligible to appeal if they meet the following criteria:

1. Take the Regents Exam in question two times.
2. Have a score on the Regents Exam under appeal within 3 points of the 65 passing score on that exam, up to a total of two exams.
3. Have a course average in the subject under appeal that meets or exceeds the required passing grade by the school. The course average must be based on the

student's official transcript that records grades achieved by the student in each quarter of the school year.

4. Present evidence that they have taken advantage of academic help provided by the school in the subject tested by the Regents Exam under appeal.
5. Have an attendance rate of 95 percent for the school year (except for excused absences) during which they last took the Regents Exam under appeal. Local school districts set their own policy for what is considered an excused or unexcused absence.
6. Be recommended for an exemption to the graduation requirement by their teacher or Department chairperson in the subject of the Regents Exam under appeal.

Students with disabilities can still pass the Regents Competency Tests instead of Regents Exams to earn a local diploma. This provision will continue for students entering grade 9 prior to September 2010. Students using this provision will receive a local diploma. In addition, the low-pass option of scoring between 55-64 on the required Regents Exams to learn a local diploma will continue to be available for students with disabilities.”

As the academic expectations rise, we, at Cossackie - Athens Central School, will do everything possible to help and support students enrolled here.