

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All high school students who complete the prescribed curriculum satisfactorily will participate in graduation exercises and be issued a diploma, provided all financial obligations to the school are satisfied. Required classes need to be taken here at SMCS. No unsigned diplomas will be given.

High school **Class of 2009** must satisfactorily complete 26 credits as prescribed by the South Dakota Department of Education and the St. Mary Catholic Schools Educational Advisory Committee per the following guide:

1. Four credits in Religion
 - a. One credit for each year in attendance
2. Four credits in English
 - a. English I, II, III, IV
3. Three credits in Social Science
 - a. One-half credit in Geography
 - b. One-half credit in World History
 - c. One credit in US History
 - d. One credit in US Government
4. Three credits in Mathematics
 - a. One credit in Algebra I
 - b. One credit in Geometry
 - c. One credit in Algebra II or higher class
5. Two credits in Laboratory Science
 - a. One credit in Physical Science
 - b. One credit Biology
6. One credit in Computer Science
 - a. One credit in Computer I
7. One credit in Fine Arts
 - a. Band is worth $\frac{1}{2}$ credit per semester
 - b. Vocal is worth $\frac{1}{2}$ credit per semester
 - c. Art is worth one credit per semester
 - d. Play participation is worth $\frac{1}{4}$ credit per performance

Foreign Languages are not required for graduation, but some colleges recommend two years of one foreign language.

High school **Class of 2010 and beyond** must satisfactorily complete 26 credits as prescribed by the South Dakota Department of Education and the St. Mary Catholic Schools Educational Advisory Committee per the following guide:

1. Four credits in Religion
 - a. One credit for each year in attendance
2. Four credits in English
 - a. English I, II, III, IV
3. Three credits in Social Science
 - a. One-half credit in Geography
 - b. One-half credit in World History
 - c. One credit in US History
 - d. One credit in US Government
4. Three credits in Mathematics
 - a. One credit in Algebra I
 - b. One credit in Geometry
 - c. One credit in Algebra II or higher class
5. Three credits in Laboratory Science
 - a. One credit in Physical Science
 - b. One credit Biology
 - c. One credit Chemistry or Physics
6. One-half in Computer Science
 - a. One-half in Computer I
7. One-half credit in Physical Education
8. One-half credit in Personal Finance or Economics
9. One credit in Fine Arts
 - a. Band is worth $\frac{1}{2}$ credit per semester
 - b. Vocal is worth $\frac{1}{2}$ credit per semester
 - c. Art is worth one credit per semester
 - d. Play participation is worth $\frac{1}{4}$ credit per performance
10. Two credits of any combination of:
 - a. World Language
 - b. Computer Studies
 - c. Approved Career & Technical Education courses

This course of study contains all courses considered necessary for acceptance into a State accredited university.

If any parent wishes to waive this course of study and pursue a standard course of study (as defined by the DOE), a parental agreement must be signed and submitted to the High School office.