

Students

GRADUATION CEREMONIES AND ACTIVITIES

Graduation ceremonies shall be held to recognize those students who have successfully completed the required course of study, passed all proficiency standards, and thereby earned the right to receive a diploma.

Misconduct during the senior year on the part of a student eligible for graduation may result in the loss of graduation privileges.

Continuation of General Procedures

Any student who has failed courses by the end of the third quarter of his/her senior year which, either in kind or amount, would prohibit him/her from graduation shall be notified by the senior counselor that he/she will not graduate and will not appear on stage at the graduation exercises.

Students whose names appear on the commencement program list may participate in the commencement exercise but may have their diplomas withheld if grade deficiencies or other problems arise after the end of the third quarter report period. Any question arising regarding an individual's right to participate in the commencement exercises or to receive a diploma after this time shall be referred to the principal or designee.

Diploma

No diploma shall bear any descriptive marking or words which indicate that the student upon which it was conferred was placed on a program based upon his/her intellectual or mental capacity.

The diploma may recognize outstanding achievements, honors or awards made by or given to the graduate.

Certificate of Completion

Students who meet all of the district unit requirements for graduation, but fail to meet district competency requirements, will be issued a Certificate of Completion. Such students will be allowed to take part in graduation activities.

(cf. 6146.1 – High School Graduation Requirements/Standards of Proficiency)

Participation in graduation ceremonies shall be limited to students who have completed district-required course work through classroom attendance and accrual of credits. Students who have passed the California High School Proficiency Examination and/or the General Education Development Test may not participate in graduation ceremonies unless they have met all graduation requirements.

(cf. 6146.2 – Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)

Board Policy 5127 (b)

In accordance with school-site rules, the principal may deny a student the privilege of participating in graduation or promotion activities because of a failure to pay fines or damages or because of other misconduct.

(cf. 1330 – Use of School Facilities)

(cf. 5144 – Disciplines)

Only school-sponsored awards may be given out during graduation exercise. Other awards may be given during separate awards programs.

Diplomas, Foreign Exchange Students

1. A regular diploma shall be issued to all foreign exchange students who complete all district requirements.
2. Honorary diplomas may be awarded to foreign exchange students who have not completed district requirements and who will be returning to their home country after completing one academic school year.
3. School diplomas awarded pursuant to this policy shall be marked “Honorary” to be clearly distinguishable from the regular diplomas of graduation awarded by the district.

(cf. 5126 – Awards of Achievement)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

40014 Lease of personal property; caps and gowns

51400-51403 Elementary school diploma

51410 Diplomas: no indication of intellectual classification

51411 Residence as condition for graduation; prohibition

Bennett v. Livermore Unified School District, 193 C.A. 3d 1012 (July 1987)

Sands v. Morongo Unified School District 89 Daily Journal D.A.R. 11765 (September 1989)

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West Sonoma County UHSD
Sebastopol, California