

GRADUATION EXERCISES

Because the Board of Education believes that completion of the requirements for a diploma is an achievement that deserves recognition, the Board wishes to recognize each graduating senior's accomplishment in a publicly celebrated graduation exercise.

Students that have not completed all the requirements for graduation will not participate in the graduation exercises. The Board may approve a student's participation in graduation exercises under special circumstances, upon a recommendation of the building principal.

High schools shall plan their own graduation exercises with the faculty and senior class working together. Although senior class members may be asked to pay fees to defray graduation expenses, no student shall be barred from participating in the exercises because of inability to pay the fees.

The program for graduation exercises shall be secular in nature. The program shall not include any school-sponsored prayers or religious activities.

Baccalaureate exercises

Groups composed of interested students and their families may plan and organize baccalaureate services that are religious in nature. However the school district shall not be identified, explicitly or implicitly, as sponsoring or endorsing such services. Attendance at such services shall be entirely voluntary with students and school personnel acting as private individuals.

School district funds including paid staff time shall not be used for baccalaureate services. Groups planning baccalaureate services may rent and use school facilities under terms, conditions and rates prescribed by the district for other comparable student activities.

ADOPTION DATE: January 15, 1985

REVISION DATE: March 19, 1997

REVISION DATE: April 18, 2005

LEGAL REFS.: Constitution of Colorado, Article 11, § 4 (religious freedom)
 20 U.S.C. 7904 (No Child Left Behind Act of 2001)
 C.R.S. 22-1-120 (rights of free expression for public school students)

CROSS REF.: KF, Community Use of School Facilities