

PARTICIPATION IN COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

I. PURPOSE

To establish procedures for student participation in graduation or commencement exercises.

II. SCOPE

This policy applies to all graduating seniors and graduating foreign exchange students.

III. POLICY STATEMENT

Only students who have met all state requirements and mandates for a regular high school diploma, special education diploma, or another state-recognized diploma or exit option by graduation date, shall have the opportunity to participate in commencement exercises. A student's behavior must be acceptable to the school principal in order for the student to participate in the school graduation ceremonies. Students who are under suspension at the time of commencement will not be eligible to participate in commencement exercises.

Graduation ceremonies shall be physically accessible to all students, their parents and/or guardians and other interested citizens.³ This statement does not prevent the limiting of the number of guests each graduate can invite to graduation ceremonies.

V. RESPONSIBILITY

A. The Superintendent (designee) is responsible for implementing this policy.

Legal References:

1. TCA 49-6-405
2. TCA 49-2-114
3. 28 CFR 36.201-2
4. Lee v. Weisman, 505 U.S. 112 S. Ct. 2649, 120 L. Ed. 2d 467 (1992)