

Graduation Exercises

Because the Board believes that completion of the requirements for a diploma, a modified diploma, extended diploma or alternative certificate from the public schools is an achievement that improves the community as well as the individual, the Board wishes to recognize that achievement in a publicly celebrated graduation exercise.

Accordingly, appropriate graduation programs may be planned by Monroe High School on the date selected by the Board.

All students who have successfully completed the requirements for senior high school diploma may participate in graduation exercises.

The school's valedictorian(s), salutatorian(s) or others, at the discretion of the principal may be permitted to speak as part of the district's planned graduation program. All speeches will be reviewed and approved in advance by the building principal.

The district will not sponsor baccalaureate exercises. Such activity may be planned by the senior class or a parent/community group.

All students in good standing¹ who have successfully completed the requirements for a high school diploma, a modified diploma, extended diploma or alternate certificate including a student with disabilities receiving a document certifying successful completion of program requirements shall have the option to participate in graduation exercises.

A student shall be allowed to wear a dress uniform issued to the student by a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces if the student:

1. Qualifies to receive a high school diploma, a modified diploma, an extended diploma or an alternative certificate; and
2. Has completed basic training for, and is an active member of a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Graduates who participate in the commencement exercises will wear caps and gowns. Graduating students will be allowed to wear items of cultural significance² with prior administrative approval.

¹A student may be denied participation in graduation exercises for conduct that violates board policy, administrative regulation and/or code of conduct provisions.

²HB 2052 (2021) requires that district allow students to wear Native American items of cultural significance to graduation and other school events. Districts can choose to allow students to wear items of significance to other cultures. "Native American items of cultural significance" means items or objects that are traditionally associated with Native American or that have religious or cultural significance to a Native American. The district may prohibit an item or object that: a) is likely to cause a substantial disruption of, or material interference with the graduation ceremony, or b) replaces a cap or gown customarily worn at a graduation ceremony.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference:

ORS 329.451	OAR 581-022-2000
ORS 332.107	OAR 581-022-2010
ORS 339.505	OAR 581-022-2015
ORS 343.295	OAR 581-022-2020
OAR 581-021-0050	OAR 581-022-2505
OAR 581-021-0055	
OAR 581-021-0060	

31 or. Atty. Gen Op 428 (1964)

Kay v. David Douglas School District No. 40, 79 Or. App. 384 (1985); rev'd 303 Or. 574 (1987); cert.den., 108 S. Ct. 740 (1988).

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 USC, Sections 1681, 1682 and 1683 (2018);
Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal
Financial Assistance, 34 C.F.R. Part 106 (2020)

Doe vs. Madison School District No. 321, 177 F.3d 789 (9th Cir. 1999).

Lee v. Weisman, 505 U.S. 577 (1992).

Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988)