

GRADUATION CEREMONIES

The Western Heights School District recognizes that graduation ceremonies are important events for our students, patrons, guests and community. To ensure that graduation ceremonies are enjoyable for all participants and spectators, the Board enacts the following policies:

1. A student shall be permitted to participate in graduation ceremonies whenever that student:
 - a. has successfully completed the minimum number of credits established by the District for graduation, or be currently enrolled in the courses needed for graduation and be no more than two credits short of the minimum required; and
 - b. has elected to participate in graduation ceremonies and complete such exercises in accordance with this policy.
 - c. is NOT under long term suspension restrictions as of the last day of the student school year. Students who are under long term suspension restrictions will not be allowed to participate in the end-of-the-year senior activities. These senior activities include but are not limited to: senior breakfast, senior group picture, senior assembly and graduation ceremonies.
2. Any student who elects to participate in graduation exercises will still be considered a student of this District until such ceremonies have been completed. Students participating in the ceremony must wear the district-approved cap and gown.
3. All students participating in graduation ceremonies will be required to abide by the school's discipline code as outlined in the Student Handbook. In addition, during graduation exercises, students shall not engage in any disruptive activity which substantially interferes with the graduation process or the rights of other individuals.
4. The administration shall have the power to impose discipline on any student who violates the provisions of this policy. It is recommended the administration take necessary steps to impose discipline as soon as is convenient after completion of graduation exercises. Following an informal hearing process conducted by the administration, students who are found to be guilty of violating this policy shall be subjected to disciplinary action. Such action may include suspension from school for the balance of the school year if the commencement ceremony is held prior to the end of school.

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