

# POLICY

## PATERSON BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Promotion From Eighth Grade

### 5411 PROMOTION FROM EIGHTH GRADE

"Purposes" The primary purpose of such programs shall be to provide the opportunity for students, their families, and staff to share in a celebration, which coincides with the completion of the eighth grade. This celebration recognizes the accomplishments of the students and the important transition to high school. In keeping with the developmental appropriateness of an eighth-grade activity, this exercise will not have the formality of a high school graduation event.

"Ceremonies" Ceremonies should be held at the elementary or middle school unless there is not sufficient capacity. In this case, the neighborhood high school should serve as the promotion ceremony site. School administration should involve parents, staff and students in planning the event. Care should be taken to maintain age-appropriate activities.

"Awards and Gifts" Individual awards related to school or community programs may be presented to students, as well as a certificate from the school. A class may present a gift to the school if funded through student or parent fundraising.

"Celebrations" Staff, parents and students may plan a party for the eighth-grade students. Care should be taken to ensure that the celebration is age appropriate.

"Restrictions" Eighth grade promotion ceremonies and celebrations should include all members of the school's eighth grade class. A student should only be excluded from participation if he/she is currently serving a suspension, expulsion or other circumstance that would restrict attendance from a school event or pose a threat to the orderly operation of the event.

"Dress Code and Regalia" Boys are expected to wear a button-up or Polo style shirt and dress pants, a tie is recommended. Girls should wear a dress, skirt, or dress pants with a blouse. Clothing should be appropriate. Dresses and skirt



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length should follow dress code guidelines. A stole, cap & gown to acknowledge the accomplishment should be worn.

Successful completion of the program of studies in elementary school requires achievement of the instructional objectives set for each course of study, demonstration of mastery of the proficiencies established for each course, and a satisfactory attendance record. The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of a pupil who may be prevented from graduating shall be so notified in advance and no later than six weeks prior to the close of the school year. Every effort shall be made to remediate a pupil's deficiencies before promotion is denied.

The requirements for promotion from elementary school of a disabled pupil shall be set forth in the pupil's individualized education program. Completion of those specialized requirements shall qualify the pupil for promotion and entry to secondary school.

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.9; 18A:36-14; 18A:36-15;  
18A:36-18; 18A:38-25 et seq.  
N.J.A.C. 6:3-4A.1; 6A:8-4.4 et seq.

Cross reference: Policy Guide No. 5200

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