

## **GDDA: Early Graduation**

This Board believes that with rare exception the many benefits of a high school education cannot be fully realized in less than four years. Further, it views the entire senior year as an important period during which the student should be able to enjoy many experiences providing academic growth and enrichment, exploration of new areas, and social growth and maturity.

Only in unusual or extenuating circumstances should a student forego the opportunities available during the senior year. But for those who may have special needs or goals and who would benefit from early graduation, the following policy is established.

### **Requirements**

The candidate must have:

1. Completed six semesters of high school attendance
2. Satisfied all of the requirements of a four-year graduate.
3. Earned at least a "C" average.
4. Qualified by virtue of extenuating circumstances or special goals.

### **Procedures**

If the applicant meets the above requirements, the student will submit a written request for early graduation to the high school principal, by the end of the first semester of their junior year. The request must contain a statement of endorsement and the signatures of the parents or legal guardian and must clearly express the reasons for the request.

The matter will be thoroughly reviewed in conference to include the student, counselor, parents, and the high school principal. After a complete evaluation of the request, the principal will forward recommendations to the Superintendent for approval or denial.

### **Graduation**

If early graduation is approved, the student may participate in commencement exercises on the same basis as other graduates. Students who do not participate in commencement will receive their diplomas as soon as practical.

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#### **Complementary Document**

- GDB, Graduation Exercises