Dedicated to Excellence

Cherry Creek Schools
Grandview High School
Aurora, Colorado 80016
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March 30, 2026

Dear Class of 2026 Graduates,

Congratulations to the Class of 2026! In the Cherry Creek School District, we celebrate the rich diversity of our students and believe it is important to honor each individual's cultural and religious expressions, especially during milestone events such as graduation. In alignment with CCSD's Core Values (Equity, Whole Well Being, Growth Mindset, Engagement, and Relationships) and new Colorado law, we are excited to announce some changes in graduation attire.

Cultural and Religious Attire
Students are welcome to wear *cultural or religious* attire that holds significant meaning to them at graduation. We encourage students to express their identity in a way that is meaningful to them and where the student feels respected and valued.

Respecting Diversity
While we celebrate cultural and religious diversity, we must also ensure that the graduation ceremony remains a respectful and dignified event for all attendees. Therefore, graduates' attire must adhere to CCSD Board Policy JICAB: Student Dress Code.

We look forward to celebrating your achievements and honoring your diverse identities during this special occasion. Please consult your principal or graduation coordinator if you have any questions or need assistance.

Resources:

We are excited to announce that new Colorado legislation is now in effect:

C.R.S 22-1-142 CONCERNING THE WEARING OF TRADITIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN REGALIA AT GRADUATION CEREMONIES (May 2023)

C.R.S 22-1-142.5 CONCERNING THE WEARING OF CULTURAL OR RELIGIOUS OBJECTS AT PUBLIC SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONIES (June 2024)

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Guidelines and Information

What does the new Colorado Revised Statutes say? What are the definitions of the words used?

C.R.S 22-1-142 - THE WEARING OF TRADITIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN REGALIA AT GRADUATION CEREMONIES (May 2023)

"Graduation Attire" - Attire that a school or school district requires a student to wear as part of the dress code for a graduation ceremony.

"Tribal Regalia" - A tribe's traditional dress or recognized objects of religious or cultural significance and includes the following:

- Tribal Symbols
- Beads
- Feathers/Plumes

C.R.S 22-1-j42.5 -THE WEARING OF CULTURAL OR RELIGIOUS OBJECTS AT PUBLIC SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONIES {June 2024)

"Graduation attire" means attire that a public school, school district, charter school institute, or board of cooperative services requires a student to wear as part of the dress code for a graduation ceremony. (You must wear your cap and gown to graduation)

"Adornment" - Something attached to or worn but not replacing or covering in its **entirety,** graduation attire, and is not limited to decorating graduation caps.

"Cultural" - A recognized practice or tradition of a particular group of people and includes protected classes based on disability, race, ethnicity, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, family composition, religion, age, national origin, or ancestry.

"Cultural" DOES NOT INCLUDE incitement, defamation, fraud, obscenity, child pornography, fighting words, or threats.

1. A student may wear recognized objects of cultural or religious significance as an adornment during the student's graduation ceremony.

2. An adornment worn by a student must comply with the public school's, school district's, charter school institute's, or board of cooperative services' dress code policy, as long as the dress code policy does not infringe upon a student's gender expression, gender identity, religion, or culture.

3. A public school, school district, charter school, institute, or board of cooperative services SHALL NOT impose restrictions on what a student may wear UNDER the student's required graduation attire beyond what is required by public schools, school districts, charter school institute, or board of cooperative services dress code policy.