

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE 322

GRADUATION CEREMONY PARTICIPATION

BACKGROUND

Typically, students take thirteen years to complete graduation requirements, from the time of entry into Kindergarten until they complete their Grade 12 year. Some students require an extra year to complete graduation requirements. In addition, some students engage in activities such as exchanges, athletics, homeschooling, or alternate education that require them to attend other schools or access distributed learning opportunities to complete graduation requirements, but they remain connected to a particular school in the District and do not have the opportunity to participate in graduation ceremonies.

Participation in graduation ceremonies is both a recognition of achievement and a social event that is celebrated along with peers. There should be consistency in the District about when and if students participate in the graduation ceremonies and associated festivities (proms and dry grad celebrations) held by secondary schools and District programs.

PROCEDURES

1. Students who are on track to meet all graduation requirements by the end of the school year (or the end of the summer in the case of students taking Work Experience or Dual Credit Programs) may participate in graduation ceremonies.
2. Participating in graduation ceremonies is a recognition of achievement or the completion of an educational pathway. Principals or designates will set a reasonable date in the Spring at which students must be in a position to meet all graduation requirements by the end of the summer to be eligible to participate in graduation ceremonies. If students are not on track to graduate:
 - 2.1. the Principal or designate must meet with the student and their parent(s)/guardian(s) to share the information that the student is not on track to meet graduation requirements and may not participate in the graduation ceremony;
 - 2.2. the Principal or designate may determine that it is appropriate for the student to participate in the social festivities that accompany the graduation ceremony (e.g.: prom, dry grad, field trips) with their peers, but not the graduation ceremony itself;
 - 2.3. the Principal or designate will develop a clear plan for the student to meet graduation requirements by the end of the following school year (or following semester), in collaboration with the student, their parent(s)/guardian(s), the school counsellor, the student's case manager if applicable, or other school personnel as appropriate;
 - 2.4. the plan is accompanied by a signed agreement that lays out the requirements;
 - 2.5. if the student does not comply with the requirements of the plan, every effort will be made to support that student to develop another plan; and

- References:

Date Approved: September 2025