

Graduation Exercises

Because the Board believes that completion of the requirements for a diploma, a modified diploma, extended diploma or alternative certificate from the public schools is an achievement that improves the community as well as the individual, the Board wishes to recognize that achievement in a publicly celebrated graduation exercise.

Commencement Ceremony

District high schools shall provide commencement ceremonies for graduating senior students. All students in good standing who have successfully completed the requirements for a senior high school diploma, a modified diploma, extended diploma or alternate certificate may participate in graduation exercises.

These ceremonies shall be held during the final five days of school. Graduating seniors may be dismissed during the final five school days. These days shall be determined by each school in consultations with the superintendent and shall be included on the annual school calendar.

Valedictorian/Salutatorian

Students must meet all the requirements for an honors diploma in order to be eligible for Valedictorian and Salutatorian honors.

Valedictorian: the student(s) in the graduating class with the highest accumulative grade point average.

Salutatorian: the student(s) in the graduating class with the second highest accumulative grade point average.

Exception to these criteria must have the prior approval annually of the Superintendent or designee.

The district's valedictorian(s), salutatorian(s) or others at the discretion of the principal or designee may be permitted to speak as part of the district's planned graduation program. All speeches will be reviewed and approved in advance by the principal or designee.

The superintendent or designee may develop administrative regulations to implement the intent of this policy.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 329.035](#)
[ORS 329.451](#)
[ORS 329.465](#)
[ORS 332.105](#)
[ORS 332.107](#)
[ORS 332.114](#)
[ORS 339.115](#)
[ORS 339.505](#)
[ORS 343.295](#)

[OAR 581-021-0071](#)
[OAR 581-022-1130](#)
[OAR 581-022-1350](#)

31 OR. ATTY. GEN. OP. 428 (1964)

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1683 (2006); Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance, 34 C.F.R. Part 106 (2006).

Kay v. David Douglas Sch. Dist. No. 40, 1987); *cert. den.*, 484 U.S. 1032 (1988).

Doe v. Madison Sch. Dist. No. 321, 177 F.3d 789 (9th Cir. 1999).

Lee v. Weisman, 505 U.S. 577 (1992).