

Hardeman County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in November	Descriptor Term: <h3 style="text-align: center;">Graduation Activities</h3>	Descriptor Code: <h3 style="text-align: center;">4.606</h3>	Issued Date: <h3 style="text-align: center;">10/10/16</h3>
		Rescinds: <h3 style="text-align: center;">4.606</h3>	Issued: <h3 style="text-align: center;">10/10/13</h3>

- 1 Students who have met all graduation requirements on the day of graduation and students who are within two (2)
 2 or fewer credits of meeting all requirements¹ and can complete the requirements during the summer may
 3 participate in graduation activities. If extenuating circumstances exist at any school, the matter shall be presented
 4 to the Board prior to graduation activities.
- 5 Students enrolled in night schools or correspondence courses, or students who earn credits outside regular enrolled
 6 classes of the local school are ineligible for class pictures, annual pictures and graduation exercises.
- 7 Students are expected to participate in all graduation activities. Graduation apparel shall be determined by the
 8 administration of each school and shall be the personal expense of each student, except for students who are
 9 eligible to receive free or reduced price lunches.² In such cases, the school shall assume responsibility for payment
 10 of fees, provided, however, that the school shall not be responsible for the expenses of graduation apparel if it
 11 consists only of the student's personal clothing. All other graduation expenses shall be the responsibility of the
 12 Board.
- 13 Graduation ceremonies shall be physically accessible to all students, their parents and/or guardians, and other
 14 interested citizens.³
- 15 Students who do not wish to participate in graduation activities shall make this known to the school principal at
 16 least five (5) days prior to the day of graduation. Non-participating students will receive their diplomas, or
 17 certificates, from the principal's office on the day following graduation ceremonies.
- 18 No student shall give a speech that has not been approved in advance by the principal or senior class sponsor.⁴
 19 There shall be no sponsorship of a baccalaureate service or other activity which is religious in nature by the Board
 20 or its employees, and no school funds, including paid staff time, will be used for such activities.⁴
- 21 Students graduating with distinction and state honors will be recognized at graduation.⁵ Additionally, Principals
 22 shall ensure that high school students who voluntarily complete at least ten (10) hours of community service each
 23 semester are recognized during the graduation ceremony.⁶

Legal References

1. TCA 49-6-405
2. TCA 49-2-114
3. 28 CFR § 36.201
4. *Lee v. Weisman*, 505 U.S. 577(1992), 112 S. Ct. 2649, 120 L. Ed. 2d 467 (1992)
5. TRR/MS 0520-01-03-.06(1)(c); State Board of Education Policy 2.103
6. State Board of Education Policy 2.103

Cross References

- Section 504 & ADA Grievance Procedures 1.802
 Student Fees and Fines 6.709