

## **STUDENTS**

### **BP 5127      Graduation Ceremonies and Activities**

High school graduation ceremonies may be held to recognize those students who have successfully completed the required course of study, passed all proficiency standards, and thereby earned the right to receive a diploma. The County Board of Education and the County Superintendent believe that these students deserve the opportunity if they desire, to have a celebration that recognizes the significance of their achievement and encourages them to continue the pursuit of learning throughout their lives.

Invocations and/or benedictions shall not be included in graduation ceremonies. Ceremonies or programs involving prayer for graduates may not be sponsored by the County Board of Education.

#### **Disciplinary Considerations**

While recognizing the importance of graduation ceremonies, the County Board of Education and the County Superintendent also desire to maintain high standards of student conduct and behavior. Graduation ceremonies are offered for students in good standing. The Program Administrator may deny the privilege of participating in these ceremonies in accordance with program rules and any required due process.

#### **Elementary/Middle School Promotion Exercises**

The County Board of Education and the County Superintendent desire that elementary and middle schools provide age-appropriate promotion exercises to recognize students who have completed the school and/or program's course of study.

#### Legal Reference:

##### **EDUCATION CODE**

38119 Lease of personal property; caps and gowns

48904 Liability of parent or guardian for willful pupil misconduct;  
withholding of grades, diplomas, transcripts

51225.5 Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange students

51400-51403 Elementary school diploma

51410 Diplomas

51412 Standards of proficiency

*Sands v. Morongo Unified School District* (1991) 53 Cal. 3d 863

*Lemon v. Kurtzman* (1971) 403 U.S. 602

*Mifflin County School District v. Stewart* (PA. Cmwlth. 1986) 503 A.2d 1012 30 Educ. L.R. 403

*Fowler v. Williamson* (1978) 448 F. Supp. 497

#### Management Resources:

##### **CDE PROGRAM ADVISORIES**

0615.89 Granting credit for passing GED, SPB:88/89-11

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