

Tennessee School Boards Association

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in November	Descriptor Term: Graduation Activities	Descriptor Code: 4.606	Issued Date:
		Rescinds:	Issued:

1 Students who have met all graduation requirements on the day of graduation and students who are
2 within two (2) or fewer credits of meeting all requirements¹ and can complete the requirements during
3 the summer may participate in graduation activities. If extenuating circumstances exist at any school,
4 the matter shall be presented to the Board prior to graduation activities.

5
6 Students are expected to participate in all graduation activities. Graduation apparel shall be determined
7 by the administration of each school and shall be the personal expense of each student, except for stu-
8 dents who are eligible to receive free or reduced price lunches.² In such cases, the school shall assume
9 responsibility for payment of fees, provided, however, that the school shall not be responsible for the
10 expenses of graduation apparel if it consists only of the student's personal clothing. All other graduation
11 expenses shall be the responsibility of the Board.

12
13 Graduation ceremonies shall be physically accessible to all students, their parents and/or guardians, and
14 other interested citizens.³

15
16 Students who do not wish to participate in graduation activities shall make this known to the school
17 principal at least five (5) days prior to the day of graduation. Non-participating students will receive their
18 diplomas, or certificates, from the principal's office on the day following graduation ceremonies.

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20 There shall be no sponsorship of a baccalaureate service or other activity which is religious in nature
21 by the Board or its employees, and no school funds, including paid staff time, will be used for such
22 activities.⁴

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24 Students graduating with distinction will be recognized at graduation.⁵

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35 Legal References:

36 1. TCA 49-6-405
37 2. TCA 49-2-114
38 3. 28 CFR § 36.201-2
39 4. *Lee v. Weisman*, 505 U.S. 112 S. Ct. 2649, 120 L. Ed. 2d 467 (1992)
40 5. TRR/MS 0520-1-3-.06(1)(c)

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35 Cross References:

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