

Weakley County Board of Education



Monitoring:

Descriptor Term:

Graduation Activities

Descriptor Code:

4.606

Issued Date:

2/5/2009

Students who have met all graduation requirements on the day of graduation may participate in the graduation ceremony.¹ The graduation ceremony is optional. Graduation apparel shall be determined by the administration of each school and shall be the personal expense of each student, except for students who are eligible to receive free or reduced-price lunches.² In such cases, the school shall assume responsibility for payment of fees, provided, however, that the school shall not be responsible for the expenses of graduation apparel if it consists only of the student's personal clothing. All other graduation expenses shall be the responsibility of the Board.

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

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

Students who are chronically absent (i.e. absent eighteen (18) days or more) during their senior year may be excluded from graduation activities at the discretion of the school principal.

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

Principals shall ensure that students graduating with distinction and state honors are recognized at graduation. Additionally, principals shall ensure that high school students who voluntarily complete at least ten (10) hours of community service each semester are recognized during the graduation ceremony.⁵

Legal References:

¹ TCA 49-6-405

² TCA 49-2-114

³ 28 CFR § 36.201-2

⁴ *Lee v. Wiseman*, 505 U.S. 112 S. Ct. 2649, 120 L. Ed. 2d 467 (1992)

⁵ State Board of Education Policy 2.103

Cross References:

1.802 Sec. 504/ADA Grievance Procedures

6.709 Student Fees and Fines