



Administrative Directive 4.20.041-AD

Promotional Exercises- Eighth Grade

In carrying out the spirit and intent of the Board policy 4.20.040-P, Graduation and Promotional Exercises, at the end of the eighth grade, the following administrative directive shall be followed:

- A. Purposes.** The primary purpose of such programs shall be to provide the opportunity for students, their families and staff to share in a celebration, which coincides with the completion of the eighth grade. This celebration recognizes the accomplishments of the students and the important transition to high school. In keeping with the developmental appropriateness of an eighth grade activity, this exercise will not have the formality of a high school graduation event;
- B. Ceremonies.** Ceremonies should be held at the elementary or middle school unless there is not sufficient capacity. In this case, the neighborhood high school should serve as the promotion ceremony site. School administration should involve parents, staff and students in planning the event. Care should be taken to maintain age-appropriate activities;
- C. Awards and Gifts.** Individual awards related to school or community programs may be presented to students, as well as a certificate from the school. Diplomas are not given at the eighth grade level. A class may present a gift to the school if funded through student or parent fund-raising;
- D. Celebrations.** Staff, parents and students may plan a party for the eighth grade students. Care should be taken to ensure that the celebration is age-appropriate.
- E. Restrictions.** Eighth grade promotion ceremonies and celebrations should include all members of the school's eighth grade class. A student should only be excluded from participation if he/she is currently serving a suspension, expulsion or other circumstance that would restrict attendance from a school event or pose a threat to the orderly operation of the event.

AD History: Adopted 6/71; Amended 1/79; 5/99; 3/16