

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULATION

R-5129

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONIES

The graduation ceremony is designed to honor and recognize graduates in a distinguished manner.

I. Requirements

As members of the graduating class, students must meet the Clark County School District's (District) academic standards and be a student in good standing per the school's requirements. Students who meet all District requirements prior to the graduation ceremony date are eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony for that school year.

II. Attire

Students must wear the cap and gown selected by their school and must also adhere to the required proper attire worn under the cap and gown as defined by their school.

Students are permitted to wear traditional tribal regalia or recognized objects of religious or cultural significance as an adornment to their cap and gown in accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 388.915.

- A. Adornment means something attached to or worn with, but not replacing, the cap and gown customarily worn at school graduation ceremonies.
- B. Cultural means recognized practices and traditions of a specific group of people.
- C. Any decorations or adornments on the caps must lay flat and not exceed the dimension of the cap.
- D. Any decorations or adornments on the gowns must not cover more than 25 percent of the school selected graduation gown. This requirement applies to flags, stoles, cords, medals, pins, and similar items.
- E. Any decorations or adornments on the caps and gowns, as well as other items brought by students to the graduation ceremony, must not be lewd, obscene, vulgar, profane, promote violence, promote the use of illicit drugs, constitute proselytizing speech, constitute discrimination, bullying, or harassment, or create a substantial disruption of, or material interference with, the graduation ceremony.

- F. Any decorations or adornments on the caps and gowns must be approved by the school principal or designee prior to the graduation ceremony. The approval and appeal procedures are set forth in separate administrative guidance.

III. Speeches

- A. The school principal or designee reserves the right to determine, based on neutral criteria, which students will be invited to speak at the graduation ceremony.
- B. Student speeches at the graduation ceremony must not be lewd, obscene, vulgar, profane, promote violence, promote the use of illicit drugs, constitute proselytizing speech, constitute discrimination, bullying, or harassment, or create a substantial disruption of, or material interference with, the graduation ceremony.
- C. Student speeches and remarks presented at the ceremony must represent the preapproved script.

IV. School Identifiers

The school may only use the approved school mascot, logo, and school colors for the graduation ceremony.

V. Foreign Exchange Students

Foreign exchange students who are part of the senior class may be recognized as guests of the school at the graduation ceremony, but may not wear a cap and gown nor participate in the graduation ceremony.

VI. Summer Graduation Ceremony Requirements

Students must be a member of the senior class for the most recent school year to participate in the summer graduation ceremony. Students must meet all District academic requirements prior to the summer graduation date to be eligible to participate in the summer graduation ceremony. Students who choose to graduate early are not eligible to participate in a summer graduation ceremony.

VII. Disclaimer

Individual student graduation speeches and personal regalia, adornments, and decorations on student graduation caps and gowns do not represent or imply the endorsement, sponsorship, position, or expression of the District or a school.

However, this does not prohibit the District or a school from restricting personal regalia, adornments, and decorations described in Section II(E) or speech described in Section III(B).

Legal References: NRS 388.915
Review Responsibility: Education Services Division
Adopted: [3/27/25]