



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 50 HAIDA GWAI BOARD POLICY MANUAL

Policy D.5 (Formerly 3615)

Policy: GRADUATION

Date Passed: August 2012

It is the view of the Board of Education that graduation marks a significant transition in a young person's life, and that it also represents the culmination of over a decade of work and effort to achieve prescribed goals and outcomes of a formal academic educational programme. In an effort to recognise this achievement and maintain reasonable and consistent expectations, the Board will prescribe the following expectations and guidelines:

Part One: Definition

- 'Graduation' shall exclusively describe the process of completing and leaving grade twelve; other terms such as 'celebration', 'completion', or 'transition' may be used to mark other significant milestones such as Kindergarten, Grade Seven, or middle years.
- The terms 'Graduation Ceremony' or 'Graduation Exercise' describes the event in which students are recognised for completing their grade twelve year. This is separate from other events such as dinners, dances, or socials, which are generally not part of the school's formal programme.

Part Two: Eligibility

- All students will be passing all subjects effective June 1st to be considered for participation in their graduation ceremony.
- All students on a 'dogwood' diploma programme are expected to have all coursework at least 90% completed by June 1st of their graduation year. A student with a course or courses with less than this amount completed will not participate in graduation ceremonies with their peers.
- The Principal will make a determination as to whether or not this has been accomplished.
- Parents of students with significant graduation complications or deficits will be notified in writing by November of their graduating school year.
- Students on an 'evergreen' school completion programme will be expected to complete their programming in a similar fashion to dogwood students.
- No student shall be excluded from graduation exercises because of the inability to pay fees.
- No student shall participate in more than one graduation ceremony.

Part Three: Ceremony

- Graduation Ceremonies shall take place in the last two weeks of June.
- While students and parents will have considerable input into the scope and nature of the ceremony, the ceremony itself is a school function and as such is under the auspices of the Principal and her/his designate.
- Graduation Exercise Ceremonies will occur at school district facilities.
- Graduation Exercises, and any other ceremony or celebration that occurs with the sanction of the school or District shall follow all policies and expectations of the Board and the school.

Part Four: Appeals

- Appeals may be made to the Superintendent of Schools.