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|  | **Oklahoma Union Board of Education** | **High School Graduation Ceremony Policy** |
| ***Adopted Date: 9/11/2023*** | ***Revision Date(s):*** | **Pg. 1 of 2** |

**OKLAHOMA UNION GRADUATION CEREMONY POLICY**

The Oklahoma Union Board of Education recognizes that graduation ceremonies are important events for our students, patrons, guests, and community. Students who have not met state mandates or local school district graduation requirements may not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony. In order to participate in the graduation ceremony a student must be in good standing. Students who have not conformed with student discipline policies, those that have been charged, are under investigation, or have been convicted of a crime, and those that have unpaid fines or fees to the school district are not in good standing, To ensure that graduation ceremonies are enjoyable for all parti­cipants and spectators, the board enacts the following policies:

1. A student shall be a graduate of this school district and entitled to a High School Diploma whenever that student has successfully completed the minimum number of credits estab­lished by the district for graduation, demonstrates mastery of the state academic content standards as required by state law, and completes (if participating) graduation exercises in accordance with this policy.

2. Students are considered as students of this district until graduation ceremonies have been completed.

3. Students participating in graduation ceremonies will be re­quired to abide by the school's discipline code as outlined in the Student Handbook. Students participating in graduation ceremonies must wear a cap and gown and shall not wear flip flops or house shoes during the ceremony. Mortar boards shall not be adorned with any beading, tape, etc, with an exception for approved tribal regalia. (see tribal regalia guidelines below). In addition, students shall not engage in any disruptive activity that substantially interferes with the graduation process or the rights of other individuals. Speeches or presentations during graduation ceremonies must be pre-approved by the administration. Students should not make substitutions to speeches/presentations after receiving approval.

Tribal Regalia.

Students who can verify their enrollment in a tribe (CDIB card) will be allowed to wear tribal regalia to graduation ceremonies, whether held at a public or private location. “Tribal Regalia” means traditional garments, jewelry, other adornments such as an eagle feather, an eagle plume, a beaded cap, a stole, or similar objects of cultural and religious significance worn by members of a federally recognized Indian tribe or the tribe of another country. Tribal regalia does NOT include any firearms or any weapons. Tribal regalia does NOT include any object that is otherwise prohibited by federal law, except in compliance with an appropriate federal permit. The beading shall be attached to the mortar board and shall not exceed ½ inch over or ½ inch under the edge of the mortar board. There will be no alterations to the robe. Students who do not qualify for a CDIB card, but do qualify under federal law (student has form 601 on file) will also be allowed to participate in wearing tribal regalia, with consultation and approval from the representative tribe.

Students will not be allowed to wear/have any objects that Oklahoma Union Public School finds will endanger the safety of a student or others or interfere with graduation ceremonies if worn by a student.

5.. The administration may impose discipline on any student who commits any act referred to in (#3) above. It is recommended the administration take necessary steps to impose discipline as soon as is convenient after completion of graduation exercises. If a student violates (#3) above prior to the ceremony, the student may not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony and will be asked to leave the premises.