

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE 206

Graduation/Advancement/Junior Kindergarten/Senior Kindergarten Exercises in Schools

The Limestone District School Board recognizes and supports graduation exercises as occasions to acknowledge publicly the achievements and contributions of students.

- 1.1.0 Secondary schools shall recognize, through annual graduation exercises, those students who have met the requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, and such prize and scholarship winners as are identified by the board, the school or outside agencies.
- 1.2.0 Elementary schools shall recognize, through annual graduation/certificate completion exercises, those students who complete grade 8 and such prize winners as are identified by the board, the school or outside agencies.
- 1.2.1 Elementary schools may also recognize, through annual advancement exercises, other students in the school who complete a specific grade. For example, students in grade 6 in a Junior Kindergarten to grade 6 school may be recognized as the “graduating” class in that school. Other recognition events are left to the discretion of the site principal but should have a minimal impact on instructional time and provide for parental attendance.
- 2.1.0 No student or parents should incur undue expenses in order to participate in graduation exercises.
- 2.2.0 In the case of elementary school graduation exercises, the school administration may elect to convene a graduation planning meeting during the spring term. All parents of potential graduates and selected grade eight class representatives will be invited to attend this meeting.
- 2.2.1 The purpose of this meeting will be to develop a collaborative plan in which cooperative decisions will address the financial concerns associated with the graduation ceremony. Committee members shall consider the financial resources of all families of the graduating students.
- 2.2.2 Where space permits, the formal graduation exercises for students shall be held in the school.
- 2.2.3 Where space does not permit, every effort will be made to hold the event in a larger school.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE 206

Graduation/Advancement/Junior Kindergarten/Senior Kindergarten Exercises in Schools

- 2.2.4 Parents shall be informed that normal school attire is appropriate for graduation exercises.
- 2.2.5 No dress code will be advocated, much less required, that necessitates the purchase of additional clothing by students.
- 2.2.6 No alcoholic beverages shall be served or otherwise made available at any graduation exercises.
- 2.2.7 When in conjunction with graduation exercises, graduating students arrange for parties and/or other social functions beyond school premises where alcoholic beverages are present, such functions are not under the sponsorship of the board or its officials.
- 2.3.0 Decisions made by the graduating planning committee shall be communicated to the families of all graduating students.
- 3.1.0 In order to ensure as large attendance as possible at graduation exercises, duplication of dates by Limestone schools should be avoided when possible.

Last reviewed: January 2011