

# POLICY

## PATERSON BOARD OF EDUCATION

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### 5461 COMMENCEMENT ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education endorses high school graduation activities and ceremonies. The date of high school graduation shall annually be recommended by the Superintendent and approved by the Board of Education.

High school graduation shall not occur prior to completion of the required one hundred eighty days of pupil instruction.

#### Guidelines for Graduation Year Activities

Pupil participation in special graduation year activities will require conduct of the highest caliber in all school situations.

Criteria for exclusion from these activities concern consistent behavioral patterns and shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Consistent involvement in disciplinary action(s);
2. Suspension; and
3. Collaborative evaluation by the staff.

The final decision shall be made by the Superintendent.

#### Graduation Procedures and Ceremonies

No pupil shall be barred from participation in graduation ceremonies for arbitrary or discriminatory reasons. A pupil and parent(s) or legal guardian(s) who may be prevented from participation shall be so notified in advance in a timely manner prior to commencement.



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The Board of Education reserves the right to deny participation when extreme circumstances warrant it. Such denial shall be treated in the same manner as a suspension and the pupil so affected shall be afforded the rights of review provided in policies of this Board of Education.

The Board of Education reserves the right to withhold a diploma and transcripts until all fines are paid.

### Awarding of Diplomas

The Superintendent shall award the diplomas. Board of Education members may be afforded the opportunity to award diplomas to their own children.

Adopted: 31 October 2002



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