

Participation in Commencement Exercises

Participation in Commencement Exercises at Salmon High School and Salmon Alternative High School is a privilege granted to students who are members of the Senior Class for that academic year. Students must have completed all of the state and local requirements for graduation by the date stipulated by the school's administration in order to participate in the graduation ceremony. Students must be a "student in good standing" to participate in the commencement exercises. A "student in good standing" is one who has completed the aforementioned academic requirements, owes the school or district no money and owes no detention time which was assigned by the school for disciplinary matters. Students may be excluded from commencement at any time prior to or during the commencement exercise for inappropriate conduct.

Students participating in commencement exercises must wear clothing under their gown in accordance with the school dress code.

Statement of Policy

A student's right to participate in the commencement exercises of the graduating class at Salmon High School is a privilege. As such, participation in this ceremony is reserved for those members of the graduating class who have completed all of the state and local requirements for graduation before the date of the ceremony. Students who complete their requirements after the date of commencement exercises will receive their diploma at that time.

Organization and Content of Commencement Exercises

The school administration shall exercise plenary control over all aspects of any graduation ceremony held within the district. The school administration may invite graduating students to participate in high school graduation exercises according to academic class standing or class officer status. Any student who, because of academic class standing, is requested to participate may choose to decline the invitation.

Students selected to participate may choose to deliver an address, poem, reading, song, musical presentation, or any other pronouncement of their choosing. The principal shall review and approve the student's address, poem, reading, song, musical presentation, or any other pronouncement of their choosing prior to its presentation to the audience attending the graduation ceremony to ensure that there is no conflict with the Establishment Clause found in the 1st Amendment to the United States Constitution, The Idaho Constitution or the laws of the state of Idaho.

Legal Reference:

United States Constitution-1<sup>st</sup> Amendment  
Art. 9, Sec. 6, Idaho Constitution – Religious Test and Teaching in School  
Prohibited

I.C. § 33-1603	Sectarian Instruction Forbidden
I.C. § 33-512	Governance of Schools
I.C. § 67-5909	Acts Prohibited

Policy History:

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Prior Board Policy: IHF(1)