

## GRADUATION POLICY

The Ringwood 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 graduation exercises in accordance with this policy.
2. Students are considered as students of this district until graduation ceremonies have been completed. The graduation process is "completed" when caps and gowns have been turned in to the responsible party after the last graduation program and the student has exited the premises.
3. Students participating in graduation ceremonies will be required to abide by the school's discipline code as outlined in the Student Handbook. In addition, students shall not engage in the following conduct during graduation exercises:
  - A. Engaging in any disruptive activity that substantially interferes with the graduation process or the rights of other individuals
  - B. Students shall be prohibited from decorating their graduation caps or gowns.
4. Students may wear tribal regalia during graduation ceremonies. Tribal regalia will include traditional garments, jewelry, other adornments such as an eagle feather, an eagle plume, a beaded cap, a stole or similar objects of culture and religious significance worn by members of a federally recognized Indian tribe or the tribe of another country. Tribal regalia does not include any firearm or other weapon. Tribal regalia does not include any object that is otherwise prohibited by federal law, except in compliance with an appropriate federal permit.
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.