



# SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 12.5

**\*REVISED 6-3-15\***

**Meeting Date:** June 4, 2015

**Subject:** Revision to BP 5127 – Graduation Ceremonies

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

**Department:** Academics

**Recommendation:** Approve revisions to BP 5127 to allow for students to participate in graduation ceremonies even if they have not yet passed both sections of the CAHSEE. It is anticipated that CDE will not offer CAHSEE exams this summer as would otherwise be the normal practice because of the changes to the exit examination requirement currently taking place at the state level.

**Background/Rationale:** The Superintendent possesses the discretion to allow for students who have not yet completed, but will complete graduation requirements during the summer, to participate in graduation ceremonies pending such. Since CDE will not be offering the usual CAHSEE exams this summer for those students who have not yet passed the exam, fairness dictates that those students be allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies.

**Financial Considerations:** NA

**LCAP Goal(s):** College and Career Ready Students; Family and Community Engagement

**Documents Attached:**

1. BP 5127 revised; BP 5127 red lined with revisions

**Estimated Time of Presentation:** 5 minutes

**Submitted by:** Lisa Allen, Deputy Superintendent, Raoul Bozio, Legal Services Manager

**Approved by:** José L. Banda Superintendent

# Sacramento City USD REVISED

## Board Policy

### Graduation Ceremonies And Activities

BP 5127

#### Students

High school graduation ceremonies shall be held to recognize those students who have successfully completed the requirements for graduation, passed all proficiency standards, and thereby earned the right to receive a diploma. The Governing Board believes that these students deserve a public celebration that recognizes the significance of their learning achievement and encourages them to continue the pursuit of learning throughout their lives. For Spring 2015 graduation ceremonies only, any 12<sup>th</sup> grade student who has not yet passed the CAHSEE requirement, but who has satisfied all other graduation requirements, may participate in graduation ceremonies.

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(cf. 5125.2 - Withholding Grades, Diploma or Transcripts)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements/Standards of Proficiency)

Invocations and/or benedictions shall not be included in graduation ceremonies. Ceremonies or programs involving prayer for graduates may not be sponsored by the school or district.

(cf. 1330 - Use of School Facilities)

(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression: Publication Code)

#### Disciplinary Considerations

While recognizing the importance of graduation ceremonies, the Board also desires to maintain high standards of student conduct and behavior. The principal may deny the privilege of participating in these ceremonies in accordance with school rules which provide for due process.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

#### Legal Reference:

##### EDUCATION CODE

38119 Lease of personal property; caps and gowns

48904 Liability of parent or guardian; withholding of grades, diplomas, transcripts

51225.5 Honorary diplomas; foreign exchange students

51400-51403 Elementary school diploma

51410 Diplomas: no indication of intellectual classification

51411 Residence as condition for graduation; prohibition

51412 Standards of proficiency

Harris v. Joint School District #241 (November 18, 1994) No. 93-35839, U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit

Lee v. Weisman, (1992) 112 S.Ct. 2649

Sands v. Morongo Unified School District (1991) 53 Cal. 3d 863

Lemon v. Kurtzman (1971) 403 U.S. 602

Mifflin County School District v. Stewart (PA. Cmwlth. 1986) 503 A.2d 1012 30 Educ. L.R. 403

Fowler v. Board of Education of the Hickory Administrative School Unit (1978) 448 F. Supp. 497

Management Resources:

CDE PROGRAM ADVISORIES

0516.39 Granting credit for passing GED, SPB:88/89-11

Policy SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: November 16, 1998 Sacramento, California

reviewed: April 15, 2002

Revised: June 4, 2015

# Sacramento City USD    **REVISED**

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