

# LACKAWANNA TRAIL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: GRADUATION  
REQUIREMENTS

ADOPTED: November 16, 2009

REVISED: October, 2009

217. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS	
1. Purpose	The Board will acknowledge each student's successful completion of the instructional program appropriate to the student's interests and needs by awarding diplomas and certificates at graduation ceremonies.
2. Authority Title 22 Sec. 4.24, 4.52	The Board shall adopt the graduation requirements students must achieve, which shall include course completion and grades, completion of a culminating project, and satisfactory results of district and/or state assessments aligned with academic standards.
SC 1611, 1613 Title 22 Sec. 4.13, 4.24 Pol. 100	The Board shall award a regular high school diploma to every student enrolled in this district who meets the requirements of graduation established by this Board as part of the district's Strategic Plan.
SC 1614 Title 22 Sec. 11.27 Pol. 113	The Board shall permit a student with a disability, who has attended four (4) years of high school, to participate in commencement ceremonies with his/her graduating class and receive a certificate of attendance, even if the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) prescribes continued educational services. The student may receive a high school diploma when s/he completes his/her Individualized Education Plan (IEP).
SC 1613	A list of all candidates for the award of a diploma shall be submitted to the Board for its approval.
Pol. 102, 127	A requirement for graduation shall be the completion of required assessments, work, and studies representing the instructional program assigned to grades 9 through 12, which are aligned to established academic standards.  The Board requires that each candidate for graduation shall have earned 26.58 credits.
Title 22 Sec. 11.4, 11.8	The fourth year of high school shall not be required for graduation if a student has completed all requirements for graduation and attends a postsecondary institution as a full-time student.
Title 22 Sec. 11.5, 11.8	A student may qualify for graduation by attending a district school part-time when officially enrolled part-time in a postsecondary institution.

<p>3. Delegation of Responsibility</p> <p>4. Guidelines Pol. 213, 216</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for planning and executing graduation ceremonies that appropriately recognize this important achievement.</p> <p>Accurate recording of each student's achievement of academic standards shall be maintained, as required by law and state regulations.</p> <p><b>Students who have taken the Reading, Math, Science, and Writing PSSA test during their junior year and have not scored at the proficient or advanced level will be required to take the 12<sup>th</sup> grade PSSA retest. Students with an IEP for the subject area of the PSSA test shall be excused from the retest. Students with an IEP for Reading and/or Math may also be excused from the PSSA Science retest.</b></p> <p>Students shall be informed of graduation requirements they are required to complete.</p> <p>Periodic warnings shall be issued to students in danger of not fulfilling graduation requirements.</p> <p>A student who has completed the requirements for graduation shall not be denied a diploma as a disciplinary measure, but the student may be denied participation in the graduation ceremony when personal conduct so warrants. Such exclusion shall be regarded as a school suspension.</p> <p>A student who does not meet all of the requirements for graduation on the day of commencement exercises, and who will not be receiving a diploma, may not participate in the graduation ceremonies.</p> <p><u>Graduation Dress Code</u></p> <p>It shall be the policy of the Board of Education to preserve the dignity and formality of the commencement ceremony. Consequently, the following guidelines shall apply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The dress code for graduation is established to provide a dignified ceremony for all to enjoy.</li> <li>2. Attire shall be formal for the ceremony. All students shall wear the cap and gown distributed by the school. No alterations, marks, writings, or additions shall be made to the school-provided cap and gown ensemble. All students shall wear the school distributed cap and gown without any additions, markings, or changes. Male students shall wear a collared shirt, dress slacks, and dress shoes. Female students shall wear a dress or blouse, and/or a skirt/dress pants and dress shoes. The administration will inspect student attire prior to the ceremony and have the final discretion on what is appropriate.</li> </ol>
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<p>SC 1611</p>	<p>3. Students who do not conform to this policy will be given their diploma at a later date and will not be permitted to participate in or attend the graduation ceremony.</p> <p>4. All practices for graduation are mandatory. A schedule for practices will be distributed to parents and students after seniors complete their final examinations. Students who are illegally absent from a practice/s will not be permitted to participate in the formal graduation ceremony.</p> <p><u>Diplomas For Eligible Veterans</u></p> <p>In order to honor and recognize eligible veterans who left high school prior to graduation to serve in World War II or the Korean War, the Board shall grant a diploma to a veteran who meets the applicable requirements of law and completes the required application.</p> <p>Upon proper application, the Board may award a diploma posthumously to a veteran who meets the stated requirements.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall submit to the Board for its approval the names of veterans of World War II and the Korean War who are eligible for a high school diploma.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code — 24 P.S. Sec. 1611, 1613, 1614</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations — 22 PA Code Sec. 4.13, 4.24, 4.52, 11.4, 11.5, 11.8, 11.27</p> <p>Board Policy — 100, 102, 113, 127, 213, 216</p>
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