

# NORTH PENN SCHOOL DISTRICT

## School Board Policy

**5127(a)**

### **STUDENTS**

#### **Progress**

#### **Graduation**

The school board will acknowledge each student's successful completion of the instructional program appropriate to the student's interests and needs by awarding a diploma at the graduation ceremonies.

The school board will additionally acknowledge each special education student who is eligible under district policy to participate in the graduation ceremony but will continue to receive services from the district and who elects to participate in the graduation ceremonies of his or her high school graduating class by awarding a certificate of attendance at the graduation ceremonies.

Any student with a disability whose individualized education program, as established pursuant to 22 PA Code §14.131 (relating to IEP), prescribes continued special education programs beyond the fourth year of high school, shall be permitted to participate in the commencement ceremonies with the student's graduating class and receive a certificate of attendance, provided that the student has attended four (4) years of high school regardless of whether the student has completed the individualized education program. Nothing in this policy shall be construed to preclude a student with a disability from receiving a high school diploma when the student satisfactorily completes an individualized education program as required under 22 PA Code §14.131. The superintendent or designee shall be responsible for the planning and execution of graduation ceremonies which appropriately mark this important achievement.

- The school board shall award a high school diploma to every student enrolled in this district who meets the requirements of graduation established by this school board as part of the district's Strategic Plan.
- There shall be only one diploma awarded by this district and no distinction shall be made between various programs of instruction as provided by PA School Code.
- The school board shall adopt the graduation requirements students must achieve, which shall include course completion and grades, and results of local and state assessments.
- The school board further requires that each candidate for graduation shall have earned a minimum of specified credits as defined in the school board approved Program of Studies or meet the requirement recommended by the IEP Team.
- The school board shall also require that every student complete the requirements for graduation as prescribed by law.

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- No student who has completed the requirements for graduation shall be denied a diploma as a disciplinary measure but she/he may be denied participation in the ceremony of graduation when personal conduct so warrants. Such exclusion shall be regarded as a school suspension or except by explicit school board action.
- Students shall be informed of graduation requirements they are expected to complete.
- The superintendent shall develop procedures for implementing this policy.

Policy:

Adopted: June 22, 2006

Reviewed: November 15, 2007

AMENDED: June 16, 2016

Srk/6/16/16