

FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: GRADUATION

ADOPTED: MAY 17, 1995

 REVISED: MAY 9, 2007
 AUGUST 20, 2014
 APRIL 20, 2016

217. GRADUATION	
1. Purpose	The Board shall establish graduation requirements and will acknowledge each student's successful completion of the instructional program by awarding diplomas and certificates at graduation ceremonies.
2. Authority Title 22 Sec. 4.24, 4.51, 4.52	The Board shall adopt the graduation requirements students must achieve in accordance with state regulations.
Title 22 Sec. 4.24	The Board requires graduation requirements to be published and distributed to students and parents/guardians, and made available in each school building or on the district's website. All changes to graduation requirements shall be published and distributed to students and parents/guardians, and made available in each school building or on the district's website immediately following approval by the Board.
SC 1611, 1613 Title 22 Sec., 4.24 Pol. 102, 127	<u>Diplomas</u> The Board shall award a high school diploma to every student enrolled in this district who meets the requirements for graduation established by this Board.
Pol. 233	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.
SC 1614 Title 22 Sec. 4.12, 4.24 11.27	<i>Students With Disabilities –</i> The Board shall permit a student with a disability, whose Individualized Education Program (IEP) prescribes continued educational services , to participate in commencement ceremonies with his/her graduating class and receive a certificate of attendance, provided that the student has attended four (4) years of high

<p>34 CFR Sec. 300.102, 300.305 Pol. 113</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 11.5, 11.8</p>	<p>school. The Board shall issue a high school diploma to each student with a disability who completes the graduation requirements established by the Board or the goals established in the student’s IEP, as determined by the student’s IEP team.</p> <p><i>Part-Time High School Students –</i></p> <p>A student may qualify for graduation by attending a district school part-time when lawfully employed part-time or when officially enrolled part-time in a postsecondary institution. Requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students must be in at least the 11th grade, 2. Achieving in the top quartile (25%) of their class, 3. Have been in attendance in the Ferndale Area School District for one (1) complete school year (10th Grade), and 4. By April 1, 11th grade students must submit a written request executed by their parent/guardian to their high school counselor, who shall confer with the student and confirm graduation requirements met to date. The request will then be forwarded to the Junior-Senior High School Principal for consideration, and presented to the Superintendent. <p>Note: Pre-approved college courses may be substituted for graduation requirements by the school district; however, they will not be used in calculating GPA or class rank.</p> <p>To receive a Ferndale Area School District diploma, the following requirements must be maintained:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The student must maintain a C average in his/her college courses to receive a Ferndale Area diploma. 2. Credits presented for the diploma must include all courses mandated by the State Board of Education regulations and Ferndale Area School District graduation requirements. 3. The student must maintain continued communication between the school district and college officials. 4. Maintain Ferndale Area School District regulations for dual enrollment in the high School and college.
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<p>SC 1611</p>	<p>Students who enter college early may participate in High School commencement ceremonies and student activities their senior year.</p> <p><u>Early Graduation of High School Students</u></p> <p>Students requesting early graduation must submit a written request executed by their parent/guardian to do so through their high school counselor, who shall confer with the student and parent and confirm graduation requirements met to date. The request will then be forwarded to the Junior-Senior High School Principal for consideration, and presented to the Superintendent.</p> <p>Students desiring to graduate early must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Request permission for early graduation by June 1 of his/her sophomore year (10th grade) to graduate at the end of the junior year.2. Have attended Ferndale Area School District for one (1) complete school year, (10th grade), and3. Have an academic ranking in the top ten percent (10%) of their class. <p>By June 1 of his/her sophomore year, the student will submit a plan detailing the manner in which all graduation requirements will be satisfied. By June 30, the Superintendent or designee will respond to the student and parent(s)/guardian(s) regarding approval/denial of the submitted plan, and any conditions to the plan.</p> <p>Each course taken offsite and/or on-line needs to be separately approved by administration to ensure that the course meets the expectation of the Ferndale Area School District and graduation requirements. Courses taken offsite and/or on-line are not calculated toward GPA and/or honor roll.</p> <p>Students who are approved for early graduation will not be included in senior class rank calculations. Students who graduate early shall forego all senior activities. For all purposes, the student will be considered a junior, graduating early at the end of the junior year.</p> <p><u>Eligible Veterans</u> –</p> <p>In order to honor and recognize honorably discharged eligible veterans who left high school prior to graduation to serve in World War II, the Korean War or the Vietnam War, the Board shall grant a diploma to a veteran who meets the applicable requirements of law and completes the required application.</p>
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<p>3. Delegation of Responsibility</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 4.24</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 4.12, 4.24, 4.51, 4.52 Pol. 102, 127</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 4.12, 4.24, 4.51, 4.52 Pol. 102, 127</p> <p>Pol. 212</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 4.24</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, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War who are eligible for a high school diploma.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for ensuring the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publication and distribution of graduation requirements to students and parents/guardians. 2. Counseling of students regarding expectations of graduation requirements. 3. Assessment of individual student attainment of academic standards to ensure the student’s progress toward achievement of graduation requirements. 4. Accurate recording and reporting of each student’s progress and accumulation of graduation requirements. 5. Provision of assistance to those students having difficulty attaining the academic standards. 6. Development of a list of individuals who qualify for the award of a diploma. 7. Planning and executing graduation ceremonies which appropriately recognize this important achievement. <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1611, 1613, 1614 State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.12, 4.24, 4.51, 4.52, 11.4, 11.5, 11.8, 11.27 Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations – 34 CFR Part 300 Board Policy – 102, 113, 127, 212, 216, 233</p>
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