

**Unity School District**  
**Administrative Rule 345.7**  
**Graduation Honor Recognition**  
**5/14/2020**

The High School graduation ceremony is a time to honor Unity students who have successfully completed the requirements for graduation. It is also a time for members of the Senior Class so honored to come together one last time in a respectful and dignified manner to receive their diplomas with family and friends in attendance.

All members of the Senior Class eligible and choosing to participate in the graduation ceremony must wear the traditional cap and gown selected by the District. In addition to such attire, the following honors may also adorn the approved apparel.

**Gold Cord**

- **National Honor Society (NHS) Cord:** Graduating seniors who have been inducted into the Unity's Chapter of the National Honor Society shall be awarded an NHS Honor Cord.
  - Graduating seniors shall have met all of the membership requirements of National Honor Society and be in good standing.

**Silver Cord**

- **Academic Honor Cord:** Graduating seniors who have accumulated a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 3.5 after the second trimester of their senior year shall be awarded an Academic Honor Cord.

**White Cord**

- **Distinguished Service Cord:** Graduating seniors who have accumulated a minimum of 120 total hours of service shall be awarded an Eagle Distinguished Service Cord.
  - The service hours must be documented and be approved by a high school staff member.
  - Only actual hours of service may be recorded. Travel time, required meetings and miscellaneous time may not be recorded.
  - The award shall be determined after the second trimester of their senior year.

**Red, Black, Yellow Braided Cord**

- **Eagle Culture Honor Cord:** Graduating seniors who have who have earned Eagle culture honors shall be awarded an Eagle Culture Honor Cord.
  - Have displayed leadership in the Migizzi Club, the Unity Pow Wow, or the Ojibwe Language Program.
  - Have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5. This minimum GPA requirement applies to the Eagle Culture Honor Cord and not the Eagle feather.
  - The award shall be determined after the second trimester of their senior year.

- The graduating senior may be permitted to wear an Eagle feather that has been bestowed upon the student by a federally or state recognized tribe. Such requirements and adornment shall follow the cultural traditions of the tribe, having been approved by the administration prior to commencement exercises.

### **Navy Blue Cord**

- **Fine Arts Honor Cord:** Graduating seniors who have earned fine arts honors shall be awarded a Fine Arts Honor Cord.
  - Have at least a 3.5 GPA in a combination of band, choir, and art classes.
  - Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0.
  - Have completed a minimum of 3.5 credits in band, choir or art.
  - Have displayed leadership in Band, Jazz Band, Choir, Pep Band, Solo and Ensemble, Theater, or Forensics.
  - The award shall be determined after the second trimester of their senior year.

### **Red Cord**

- **Career and Technical Honor Cord:** Graduating seniors who have earned Career and Technical Honor shall be awarded a Career and Technical Honor Cord.
  - Have at least a 3.5 GPA in a combination of agriculture, business education, and technology education.
  - Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0.
  - Have completed minimum of 2.5 credits in the career and technical areas.
  - Have displayed leadership in FBLA, FFA, ~~or~~ SkillsUSA clubs, **or Youth Apprenticeship.**
  - The award shall be determined after the second trimester of their senior year.

### **Other Adornment:**

- The Unity Scholar Athlete may affix a Scholar Athlete pin to their graduation stole. The specific pin shall be awarded by the principal prior to the commencement exercises.
- A graduating senior who is a National Honor Society (NHS) member may affix an NHS pin to their graduation stole. The specific pin shall be approved by the principal prior to the commencement exercises.

### **Exclusions:**

No other sashes, stoles, cords, or other adornment may be worn by a graduating senior during the commencement exercises. In addition, any apparel that could be a distraction or disruption to the ceremony is not allowed. Students wearing such apparel may be excluded from commencement exercises by the high school principal.