



GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10

DATE OF MEETING: **May 11, 2021**

TITLE: **Study and Approve Governing Board Policy IKFB (Graduation Exercises)**

BACKGROUND:

Arizona Governor Ducey has signed HB 2705 (Fifty-fifth Legislature, First Regular Session, 2021) into law and filed it in the office of the Secretary of State on April 20, 2021. HB 2705 includes an emergency measure that makes it operative immediately. The entire text HB 2705 is set forth below:

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

Section 1. Title 15, chapter 3, article 3, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 15-348, to read:

15-348. Dress code policies; traditional tribal regalia; objects of cultural significance; graduation ceremonies; definitions

A. A school district governing board, a charter school governing body or any public-school may not prohibit a student who is a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe or who is eligible to be enrolled as a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe from wearing traditional tribal regalia or objects of cultural significance at a graduation ceremony.

B. For the purposes of this section, "objects of cultural significance" and "traditional tribal regalia" include an eagle feather or eagle plume.

Section 2. Emergency

This act is an emergency measure that is necessary to preserve the public peace, health or safety and is operative immediately as provided by law.

Administration now recommends that Policy IKFB (Graduation Exercises) be revised for consistency with HB 2705. The recommended additions are set forth in [blue](#).

While the Governing Board typically uses a two-meeting process for policy approval, the Board may consider applying the emergency measures outlined in Policy BGB (Policy Adoption) to approve these proposed revisions in a single meeting. This will ensure that Policy IKFB is consistent with HB 2705 before graduation ceremonies occur at Amphitheater Public Schools.

RECOMMENDATION: This item is presented as a study/action item to provide the Board with an opportunity to study and approve the policy changes in a single meeting. Administration recommends that the Board approve the proposed changes to Policy IKFB as presented.

INITIATED BY:

Michelle H. Tong, J.D.,
Associate to the Superintendent and General Counsel

Date: April 30, 2021

Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent

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GRADUATION EXERCISES

Graduation exercises will be held for students who have met state and local requirements for graduation from high school.

Participation in high school commencement exercises is encouraged but is not compulsory. However, since these exercises require planning and rehearsals, the following rules shall apply:

A. Students who wish to participate must be present at the rehearsals. Failure to do so, except for legitimate reasons for absence, may be cause for excluding students from participating in the exercises.

B. Students may not participate in the commencement exercises unless they have successfully completed the requirements for graduation.

C. Awards to seniors will be printed on the commencement program and announced at the exercises only in cases where the recipients have been selected solely by the school.

D. Other awards to graduating seniors selected by persons or organizations outside the school may be presented at the final awards assembly if approved by the principal.

E. A student who is a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe or who is eligible to be enrolled as a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe may wear traditional tribal regalia or objects of cultural significance at a graduation ceremony.

F. For the purposes of this section, "objects of cultural significance" and "traditional tribal regalia" include an eagle feather or eagle plume.