# **Existing Policy**

## Recommended Policy

### 5.0210.30 Honorary Diplomas

#### None

Duchesne County Board of Education may choose on a case-by-case basis to award an honorary diploma to citizens of Duchesne County who did not graduate from District high schools. This may include veterans of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. Because veterans of more recent conflicts were required to have a high school diploma in order to enter the military, they are not addressed in Utah legislation.

Individuals, their family members, or representatives who are interested in receiving an honorary diploma, for themselves or someone else, shall request an honorary diploma from a school or district official. In addition to information identifying the individual, the school/district may require:

- 1. A brief biographical sketch of the nominee including their education, service, career, accomplishments, and awards.
- 2. A brief summary listing how the nominee has met the requirements specified by Utah Code.
- 3. If applicable, verification from the Department of Veterans and Military Affairs certifying that the nominee served in the armed forces of the United States during the period of World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War and that the nominee was honorably discharged; or was released from active duty because of a service-related disability.

Honorary diplomas may be awarded as part of the yearly graduation ceremonies for District high schools or at other times as decided by school/district officials.

On a case-by-case basis the Duchesne County Board of Education can choose to award an honorary diploma to other citizens of Duchesne County who did not graduate from district high schools. The Board or a designee will determine the criteria for awarding honorary diplomas but may consider these:

- An individual who has made a notable contribution of time, talents, or resources to an individual school or the community.
- An individual who inspires and encourages current and past students.
- A community member who achieves state or national prominence.
- A member of the business, civic, health, education, or philanthropic community that has made a significant contribution to the local community.

### **Legal Reference Synopsis**

Utah Code 53A-3-427 Honorary High School Diploma for Certain Veterans