

Early Graduation Applications, December 2020

Background:

In recent years, students across the United States have sought to graduate early from their respective high schools. Courts have ruled that this must be a right for students if they meet the district's graduation requirements.

School board policy 505.6 allows for our students to graduate early if they meet the minimum graduation requirements stated in board policy.

The Belmond-Klemme Junior-Senior High School student handbook sets forth some specific objectives for early graduation. They are as follows:

- ❖ Permission of the school board;
- ❖ Application within the first two weeks of the start of the school year;
- ❖ Permission of parents or guardians; and
- ❖ Successful completion of 26 credits and all required courses.

A student who graduates early will no longer be considered a student and will become an alumnus of the school district. He or she will not be permitted to enroll in any additional classes, including post-secondary options. He or she will not be eligible to compete in co-curricular or extracurricular activities beyond their *early graduation* date.

Students graduating early receive the same diploma as other students. Early graduates may receive their diploma after the end of their final semester of the school year. Early graduates may choose to participate in commencement exercises and prom at the end of the academic year.

The students listed below are seeking the Belmond-Klemme School Board's permission to graduate early—at the end of the current semester.

- Marcos Gonzalez
- Jocelin Villa
- Carter Heifner

Recommended Action:

I recommend approval of the list of graduates conditional upon the completion of all necessary requirements.