

December 8, 2022

To: Dr. Josh Swanson, Superintendent
From: Nathaniel Gibbs, Principal, Eden Prairie High School
Re: Academic Recognition Cords at Graduation.

EPHS Administration recommends a modification to the Academic Recognition Cords a student may receive, which are reflected on pages 6 and 7 of the 2022-23 EPHS Student Handbook. We recommend that Red Cords be awarded at the 2023 graduation ceremony if students meet the requirements outlined within the recommended and requested student handbook changes.

This recommendation is being made after speaking with students, staff, and families. I have learned that Red Cords have been an important tradition that our students have come to deeply value over the years. I have also learned that many students committed to an accelerated academic pathway with the hopes and expectation of being formally recognized with a red cord during graduation.

In addition - a significant amount of our students have advocated that EPHS revisit the cords policy through our Eagle Voice process.

With those factors in mind, I am proposing that we adjust our graduation cords policy for the 2022-23 school year and enter a process at EPHS to evolve and align future practices of graduation recognition with our mission and academic vision, while including the voices of our students, staff, and families over the coming months.