To graduate from Highland High School a student must successfully complete the course work required by the Highland Board of Trustees at the time the student began the ninth (9) grade. This course work is found in the student handbook approved by the Trustees annually, and becomes a part of this policy upon approval by the Trustees.

If a student fails a required course, an educational plan will be developed with the student, parents, teachers, counselors, and administration. This plan will specify how the student will make up the failing grade. Teachers are required to notify students, parents, counselor, and principal when a student is failing in the fourth quarter of his/her senior year.

Students who have not completed all of the requirements for graduation will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremonies with their peers. They will be given a diploma when the requirements are completed. Students will wear black and/or gold robes for graduation ceremonies. Foreign exchange students may participate in the graduation ceremonies although they may not be receiving a diploma.

Course completed through any other accredited institution will be honored by Highland High School as credits toward graduation. It is the student's responsibility to provide a transcript of the course(s) taken, and the name and address of the institution from which the course was taken. The Highland High School administration will verify whether the institution is accredited and by whom.

Honors at Graduation – Selection of Valedictorian and Salutatorian of a graduating class is based on grade point average of the first seven semesters in all graded classes which must have been earned in accredited schools. Selection for Valedictorian is based on the top accumulative grade point average over seven semesters. Salutatorian(s) will be selected from all the second ranked students with the same tenth grade point average. Students taking correspondence courses that replace any course(s) offered by Highland High School will not be eligible to be valedictorian or salutatorian. Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis. The valedictorian and salutatorian, though, must complete their last two semesters at Highland High School. Exceptions to the above will be made on a case-by-case basis. Examples for an exception might be a student being a page at the legislature or a student studying in a foreign country for a period of time.

Grades earned in the following courses will not be used to compute a student's grade point average in determining the valedictorian and salutatorian: Band, orchestra, choir, library, teacher or office aide, or physical education.

The graduation speaker will be selected by the graduating class and approved by the board.

Two members of the Board of Trustees will represent the Board at graduation. The Board at the March Board Meeting will select them.

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LEGAL REFERENCE: Board Action

ADOPTED: 9/19/77

AMENDED: 4/12/93, 3/8/99, 5/10/99, 6/13/05