

Drake High School DRAKE'S GRADUATION CEREMONY DIPLOMA ALTERNATIVES

The Graduation Ceremony and Drake's Senior in Good Standing

In order for Seniors to participate in the graduation ceremony, she/he must be a senior in good standing. The TUHSD Board recognizes the need for school sites to maintain high standards for student citizenship and behavior and therefore supports the practice of providing our graduation ceremony for seniors in good standing.

Our expectation is for all second semester seniors to continue to achieve academically and behave appropriately which is commensurate with the Drake's high standards. Participation in the graduation ceremony is voluntary and considered a privilege. Under the policy, a student may qualify to earn a graduation diploma, yet still be restricted from participation in the ceremony. An appeal process is in place at each high school.

Eligibility to participate in the graduation ceremony includes:

- Meeting District and State graduation requirements;
- Earning passing grades in all courses. Grades of "F" or Incomplete in any course may prevent students from participating in the graduation ceremony;
- Attending Classes. This includes all unexcused absences.
- Behaving appropriately as defined in the site Handbook Addendum; and,
- Paying outstanding bills.
- Participating in all graduation ceremony practices. If a student fails to participate, this may not be appealed and will be determined by administration.

Alternatives to the High School Diploma

- **California High School Proficiency Exam** - The exam is offered twice a year to students who have finished their sophomore year or are sixteen years of age and are seeking an alternative to the standard high school diploma. Students who pass the test are awarded a proficiency certificate by the California State Department of Education. Applications and more information may be obtained at the Counseling Office or at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/statetests/chspe/>. Parent permission is required for students who pass the test in order for them to leave high school.
- **Adult High School Diploma** - A Tamalpais Adult Education diploma is an option for students not graduating with their class at school. Tamalpais Adult Education specializes in an instructional format that is personalized, paced at the student's rate of learning, and also permits students to accomplish as much as they can at home through independent study. To register, contact Adult Education at (415) 945-3780.
- **Graduation Equivalency Diploma (GED)** - Students who are 17-1/2 or older may take the Graduation Equivalency Exam. The Tamalpais Adult School program offers classes in GED preparation for students who elect to pursue this alternative to a District diploma. More information is available at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ged/index.html/>.