

# POLICY SERVICES ADVISORY

Volume 33, Number 2

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Policy Advisory No. 679 ..... Policy IKFB — Graduation Exercises

## POLICY ADVISORY DISCUSSION

### Policy IKFB, Graduation Exercises

House Bill 2705 (Fifty-fifth Legislature, First Regular Session, 2021), an act relating to local governance of schools, was approved by the Governor, and filed in the office of the Secretary of State on April 20, 2021, as an emergency measure that is necessary to preserve the public peace, health or safety and is operative immediately as provided by law.

The Governing Board should adopt Policy IKFB as amended in one reading as Policy BGB, Policy Adoption, states that *policies may be adopted or amended at a single meeting of the Board in a Board-declared emergency.*

House Bill 2705 is replicated below:

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:*

*Section 1. Title 15, chapter 3, article 3, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 15-348, to read:*

*15-348. Dress code policies; traditional tribal regalia; objects of cultural significance; graduation ceremonies; definitions*

*A. A SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD, A CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY OR ANY PUBLIC-SCHOOL MAY NOT PROHIBIT A STUDENT WHO IS A MEMBER OF A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED INDIAN TRIBE OR WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO BE ENROLLED AS A MEMBER OF A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED INDIAN TRIBE FROM WEARING TRADITIONAL TRIBAL REGALIA OR OBJECTS OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE AT A GRADUATION CEREMONY.*

*B. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "OBJECTS OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE" AND "TRADITIONAL TRIBAL REGALIA" INCLUDE AN EAGLE FEATHER OR EAGLE PLUME.*

### *Sec. 2. Emergency*

*This act is an emergency measure that is necessary to preserve the public peace, health or safety and is operative immediately as provided by law.*

<p><i>Note:</i> This material is written for informational purposes only, and not as legal advice. You may wish to consult an attorney for further explanation.</p>
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If you have any questions, call Policy Services at (602) 254-1100. Ask for Chris Thomas, General Counsel/Associate Executive Director; Dr. Terry Rowles, Assistant Director; Steve Highlen, Senior Policy Consultant; or David DeCabooter, Policy Consultant/Staff Attorney. Our e-mail addresses are, respectively, [cthomas@azsba.org], [trowles@azsba.org], [shighlen@azsba.org] and [ddecabooter@azsba.org]. You may also fax information to (602) 254-1177.

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## IKFB © GRADUATION EXERCISES

Graduation exercises will be held for students who have met state and local requirements for graduation from high school.

Participation in high school commencement exercises is encouraged but is not compulsory. However, since these exercises require planning and rehearsals, the following rules shall apply:

A. Students who wish to participate must be present at the rehearsals. Failure to do so, except for legitimate reasons for absence, may be cause for excluding students from participating in the exercises.

B. Students may not participate in the commencement exercises unless they have successfully completed the requirements for graduation.

C. Awards to seniors will be printed on the commencement program and announced at the exercises only in cases where the recipients have been selected solely by the school.

D. Other awards to graduating seniors selected by persons or organizations outside the school may be presented at the final awards assembly if approved by the principal.

E. A student who is a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe or who is eligible to be enrolled as a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe may wear traditional tribal regalia or objects of cultural significance at a graduation ceremony.

F. For the purposes of this section, "objects of cultural significance" and "traditional tribal regalia" include an eagle feather or eagle plume.

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_