



HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL
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MEMORANDUM

To: Hanover School Committee
From: Dr. Thomas Raab, Principal
Cc: Mr. Matthew Ferron, Superintendent of Schools
Date: June 9, 2014
Re: Proposed Handbook Change for 2014-2015

Given the recent situation regarding graduation status, I am proposing the following change to the Hanover High School Handbook for 2014-2015 in order to provide clarification of already existing rules and regulations. I am asking your approval to move the sentence in red below from the Introduction to the Code of Conduct on pages 25-26 to the Graduation section on page 12:

The Graduation section on page 12 would read with changes in red:

Graduation

Graduation is a privilege, not a right. The Principal has the prerogative to award the diploma at a later date. Once seniors have been released from school after their final exams, they are not to return to school except for school business or as directed by the Administration for specific exercises. No disruption of the school will be tolerated at any time. Failure to comply can result in nonparticipation in graduation and withholding of the diploma until after graduation. Criminal conduct will be reported to the police. The Principal shall, well in advance of graduation, make known in writing to members of the graduating class and their parents the standards of proper conduct pertaining to graduation. **Because the school is interested in maintaining the quality and integrity of its programs throughout the school year, infractions of school rules which occur after May 1st of any school year may be subject to further consequences in addition to those listed in the Code of Conduct, which include but are not limited to removal from school activities, senior class activities and/or participation in graduation activities or ceremonies.**

The Principal has the right to refuse a student's participation in the graduation ceremonies and to withhold awarding of a diploma on graduation day ~~on the following grounds~~ **for reasons including but not limited to:** (1) Failure to pass the required courses and meet academic requirements for graduation, (2) Failure to participate in the graduation rehearsals as deemed necessary by the Principal, (3) Refusal to wear academic robes (caps, tassels, and gowns) and other appropriate clothing as required by the Principal, (4) Violation of the Drug & Alcohol Policy ~~at any time during the two weeks prior to graduation, after May 1,~~ (5) Serving of a suspension at the time of graduation and (6) ~~Any~~ **Any** breach of behavior or decorum that would tend to discredit the school while attending ~~or~~ while en route to or from any of the traditional functions.

"The Hanover High School Community provides a competitive and challenging curriculum specific to individual educational needs, empowering students to succeed in the academic, social, and civic arenas. We believe that respect, compassion, and empathy promote a positive climate that fosters school spirit and unity. Within a safe and secure environment, students develop academic and personal independence, self-motivation, artistic appreciation, creativity, social responsibility, and global awareness."

