The Notice of Intent to adopt, repeal, or amend Clark County School District Policies and Regulations is pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 386.365. The Clark County Board of School Trustees hereby notices its intent to amend:

Regulation 5129, High School Graduation Ceremonies

A copy of the proposal is available for inspection by the public during normal business hours in the Office of the Superintendent of Schools of the Clark County School District which is located at 5100 West Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada, and also on the Clark County School District Website: http://ccsd.net/district/policies-regulations/.

All persons interested in the proposed changes are invited to submit data, views, or arguments, orally or in writing, prior to the date set for final action.

This matter may be considered at a public meeting to be held on Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 5 p.m., in the Board Room of the Clark County School District located at 2832 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Discussion and possible action on approval of the Notice of Intent to Adopt, Repeal, or Amend Clark County School District Regulation 5129, High School Graduation Ceremonies, prior to submission to the Board of School Trustees for approval on Thursday, May 7, 2026, is recommended.

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULATION

R-5129

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONIES

The graduation ceremony is designed to honor and recognize graduates in a distinguished manner.

I. ***General*** Requirements

As members of the graduating class, students must meet the Clark County School District's (District) academic standards and be a student in good standing per the school's requirements. Students who meet all District requirements prior to the graduation ceremony date are eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony for that school year.

II. Attire

Students must wear the cap and gown selected by their school and must also adhere to the required proper attire worn under the cap and gown as defined by their school.

Students are permitted to wear traditional tribal regalia or recognized objects of religious or cultural significance as an adornment to their cap and gown in accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 388.915. ***Students are also permitted to wear other regalia, decorations, or adornments in accordance with the following:***

A. ***"***Adornment***"*** means something attached to or worn with, but not replacing ***or altering***, the cap and gown customarily worn at school graduation ceremonies.

B. ***"***Cultural***"*** means recognized practices and traditions of a specific group of people.

C. Any ***regalia,*** decorations***,*** or adornments on the caps must lay flat and not exceed the dimension***s*** of the cap.

D. ***Students may wear up to five stoles. Students may also wear any regalia, decorations, or adornments that lay flat on the cap and do not exceed the dimensions of the cap.*** Any ***other regalia,*** decorations***,*** or adornments on the gowns must not cover more than 25 percent of the school-selected graduation gown. This requirement applies to flags, [~~stoles,~~] cords, medals, pins, ***charms,*** and similar items.

E. [~~Any~~] ***Stoles, cap*** decorations***,*** [~~or~~] ***cap*** adornments***, other regalia, and*** [~~on the caps and gowns, as well as~~] other items brought [~~by students~~] to the [~~graduation~~] ceremony[~~,~~] must not be lewd, obscene, vulgar, profane, promote violence, promote the use of illicit drugs, constitute ***harassment***

~~[proselytizing speech, constitute discrimination]~~, bullying, ~~[or harassment,]~~ or ***discrimination, or*** create a substantial disruption of, or material interference with, the graduation ceremony ***as is consistent with the First Amendment and NRS 388.915.***

1. ***For the purposes of this section, "harassment" includes: (a) criminal harassment (defined in NRS 200.571); (b) sexual harassment (defined as unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe and pervasive that it effectively denies any person equal access to the graduation ceremony); and (c) non-sexual harassment (defined as any verbal, visual, or physical conduct that is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it adversely affects, or has the purpose or logical consequence of interfering with, any person's presence at the graduation ceremony or creates an intimidating or hostile graduation ceremony atmosphere).***

2. ***For the purposes of this section, "bullying" is defined in NRS 388.122.***

3. ***For the purposes of this section, "discrimination" carries the same meaning as in the District's Notice of Non-discrimination, which forbids discriminatory treatment against any person on the basis of race, creed/religion, color, national or ethnic origin, protective hairstyle (to include without limitation hairstyles such as natural hairstyles, afros, bantu knots, curls, braids, locks, and twists), sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, or age pursuant to federal and state laws including, but not limited to, Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and 34 C.F.R. § 106.8(b)(1), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act.***

~~[F.]~~ ~~[Any decorations or adornments on the caps and gowns must be approved by the school principal or designee prior to the graduation ceremony. The approval and appeal procedures are set forth in separate administrative guidance.]~~

F. Pre-approval Process

1. ***In an effort to ensure regalia does not violate the standards set forth above and while not required, it is strongly recommended that any regalia, decorations, or adornments on the caps and gowns be***

submitted by the student to the school principal or designee for a request for review and approval at least 20 school days prior to the graduation ceremony. Students should submit the item or a photograph of the item to the school principal or designee, either electronically or in person at the school site.

2. ***After submission, the school principal or designee will make the decision to approve or deny the regalia, decoration, or adornment within 10 school days of receipt of the request, based on the standards set forth in Sections (A) through (E) above. During this 10-day period, if the school principal or designee is considering denying an item, they will consult with the Deputy Superintendent, Teaching and Learning or designee which oversees high school graduations. If the Deputy Superintendent, Teaching and Learning or designee approves an item that a school principal considered denying, the school will be notified of the permitted item. If the school principal or designee denies the request, they will complete a Principal Graduation Regalia, Decoration, or Adornment Denial form, which will include a reason for the denial, and provide a copy to the student and the parent/guardian.***

    a. ***If the school principal or designee denies the request, the student may submit a written appeal to the Superintendent of Public Instruction at the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) no later than five school days prior to the graduation ceremony, as set forth in NRS 388.915.***

3. ***If a student arrives at the graduation ceremony wearing regalia, decorations, or adornments that have <u>not</u> been reviewed and pre-approved by the school principal or designee, and if the school principal or designee that is present at the graduation ceremony determines, in their discretion, that the regalia, decoration, or adornment on the cap or gown does not conform with the restrictions imposed by Sections (II)(C) through (II)(E) of this regulation, the following applies:***

    a. ***The student may be required to remove the item, or, if the student refuses to remove the item, the student may not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony.***

    b. ***The decision of the school principal or designee at the graduation ceremony is final, and the school principal or designee will not be required to complete a Principal Graduation Regalia, Decoration, or Adornment Denial form prior to denial. The school principal or***

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designee will document the denial by providing written notice to the Deputy Superintendent, Teaching and Learning or designee within 10 days of the ceremony stating briefly what the item was and the basis for the denial.

III. Speeches

A. The school principal or designee reserves the right to determine, based on neutral criteria, which students will be invited to speak at the graduation ceremony.

B. Student speeches at the graduation ceremony must not be lewd, obscene, vulgar, profane, promote violence, promote the use of illicit drugs, constitute proselytizing speech, constitute discrimination, bullying, or harassment, or create a substantial disruption of, or material interference with, the graduation ceremony.

C. Student speeches and remarks presented at the ceremony must represent the preapproved script.

IV. School Identifiers

[~~The school may~~] Only [~~use~~] the approved school mascot, logo, and school colors ***may be used*** for the graduation ceremony.

V. Foreign Exchange Students

Foreign exchange students who are part of the senior class may be recognized as guests of the school at the graduation ceremony, but may not wear a cap and gown nor participate in the graduation ceremony.

VI. Summer Graduation Ceremony Requirements

Students must be a member of the senior class for the most recent school year to participate in the summer graduation ceremony. Students must meet all District academic requirements prior to the summer graduation date to be eligible to participate in the summer graduation ceremony. Students who choose to graduate early are not eligible to participate in a summer graduation ceremony.

VII. Disclaimer

Individual student graduation speeches and personal regalia, adornments, and decorations on student graduation caps and gowns do not represent or imply the endorsement, sponsorship, position, or expression of the District or a school. However, this does not prohibit the District or a school from restricting personal

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regalia, adornments, and decorations described in Section II[~~(E)~~] or speech described in Section III(B).

Legal References:	NRS 388.915
Review Responsibility:	Education Services Division
Adopted:	[3/27/25]