

Zion-Benton Township High School District No. 126
Statement of Behavior Expectations and Contract for
Graduation Ceremony and Activities

CONGRATULATIONS! Parents, family, and friends will all share in your graduation celebration. To commemorate this accomplishment, the Board of Education, staff, and parents have worked together with the senior class to plan the commencement and senior activities leading to it. You are expected to continue to conduct yourself with dignity and respect at all times through the end of the school year and at the graduation ceremony. To that end, this Statement of Behavior Expectations and Contract sets forth acceptable and prohibited behavior and the consequences for misconduct. Participation in the senior activities and commencement is voluntary and is not required to receive a diploma. Participation is a privilege that you may forfeit as a result of gross disobedience or misconduct. Our goal is prevention rather than punishment. Adherence to these expectations will ensure that all seniors will enjoy the senior activities and all graduates and their guests will enjoy a memorable, pleasant, and dignified commencement.

Therefore, if you intend to participate in the senior activities and commencement, you and your parent or guardian must sign this Contract and submit it to the Principal's Office.

Senior Activities

This year, senior activities include, but are not limited to Prom, Honors Banquet, Senior Week, Graduation Practices, and Graduation.

To participate in these or other senior activities, I understand and I agree to the following:

- These activities are considered regular scheduled school days and my attendance and participation means that I will adhere to all school rules.
- I will continue to refrain from any and all prohibited student misconduct as outlined in *Board Policy 7:190* and as prescribed in the *Student Code of Conduct* section of the Student Handbook that was provided to me at the beginning of the school year. This includes but is not limited to:
 - The causing or attempting to cause damage, theft, or altering the appearance of school property or another's personal property in any way, shape, or form;
 - The engagement in any activity on or off campus, during or after school hours, that interferes, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or any educational function;
 - The engagement in "group disorder";
 - Trespass and participation in any form of prank; and
 - The violating of any criminal law.

I understand I will be subject, but not limited to the following disciplinary measures and/or other consequences prior to receiving my diploma, should I not abide by the above terms:

- Community service;
- Loss of graduation ceremony privileges;
- Full restitution of cost and repair;
- Suspension and/or Expulsion from school and all school-sponsored activities;
- Notification to juvenile authorities or other law enforcement; and potential police arrest.

These disciplinary measures are not progressive.



OVER

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Commencement

Your graduation ceremony is a formal ceremony to honor you, the student, for completing all of the graduation requirements and a privilege established by the Zion-Benton Twp. High School District 126 Board of Education.

Participation is contingent on your successful completion of the required credits and your adherence to all school regulations, procedures, and policies for student behavior and attendance, and the behavior expectations outlined in this contract. Please make every effort to ensure that you make progress towards your graduation requirements and that you help us maintain the proper learning environment.

To attend the formal graduation ceremony, I understand and agree to the following:

- To abide by *Board Policy 7:190* and the *Student Code of Conduct*;
- To dress in clothing appropriate for a formal event;
 - **Ladies** should wear dresses, skirts or appropriate "dressy" pantsuits, and dress shoes. Heels are not recommended.
 - **Gentlemen** should wear dress shirts, slacks, and dress shoes. Students are not allowed to wear tennis shoes or flip flops.
- To display dignified and courteous behavior throughout the ceremony, and to remain quiet during the speeches and the reading of the names;
- To NOT adorn caps and gowns with decorations, including but not limited to flowers, jewelry, confetti, artwork, etc.;
- To NOT engage in any behavior that is disruptive, distracting, or dangerous to myself or those around me, including but not limited to throwing objects, yelling, spraying silly string, using balloons, or engaging in any other inappropriate behaviors as determined by staff. Such behavior will **NOT** be tolerated; and
- To NOT carry anything into the ceremony that will or could disrupt the ceremony, including but not limited to horns, silly string, cameras, iPhones (or other electronic devices with or without a built-in camera), etc.

Violation of these behavior expectations will subject me to the following consequences:

- Being prohibited from attending the graduation ceremony; or
- Removal from the graduation ceremony; and
- Any other consequences deemed appropriate by the Board of Education, including but not limited to seizure of prohibited items, restitution, referral to law enforcement and arrest.

As a result of violating this Contract, I may not receive my diploma until my parent or guardian and I appear before the Board of Education at the June meeting.

Students not participating in the graduation ceremony may pick up their diploma at the NT@ZB main office beginning the second week of June on Mondays through Thursdays from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Students must present a school I.D. and all school fees and fines must be paid in full.

**YOU MUST REVIEW, COMPLETE AND RETURN THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE TO
THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE.**

Place a check in one of the appropriate boxes.

- I will participate in the New Tech graduation ceremony.**
- I will not participate in the New Tech graduation ceremony.**
- I also wish to participate in the ZB ceremony and will submit a Dual Participation Agreement as well as this contract.**

GRADUATE'S NAME: _____

PLEASE PRINT (as it will appear on your diploma)

I have read the Statement of Behavior Expectations and Contract for the Graduation Ceremony and Activities and understand the expectations and consequences therein. I will follow all requirements as described. *Your signatures indicate your agreement to these conditions.*

GRADUATE SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____