

1 **Board Policies**

**Blair-Taylor School District**

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3 **Series: 300**  
4 **Section: 340**  
5 **Policy#: 345.44**

**INSTRUCTION**  
**EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM**  
**COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM**

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9 The goal for this policy is threefold:

- 10 ❖ Establish written criteria for maintaining a dignified and ongoing tradition for the Blair- Taylor
- 11 ❖ Be sensitive to the comfort needs by targeting a 60-70 minute timeline for commencement.
- 12 ❖ Recognize the academic achievements of graduates with the understanding that commencement
- 13 exercises are clearly under the authority of the school district.

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15 The class will select their colors, flower, and motto (with approval from advisors and principal).

- 16 1. Gowns: All graduates participating in commencement exercises will wear the cap and gown  
17 selected by the class. The colors will either be school colors (royal blue/silver), black and  
18 white, or any combination available for those colors. Students are required to wear  
19 appropriate shoes and clothes under their gown.
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21 2. Processional: Graduates will be led in by the class valedictorian and salutatorian followed by  
22 the other graduates in an order designated by the building principal. Graduates will process in  
23 with the band playing "Pomp and Circumstance".
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25 3. Slide Presentation: If a slide presentation is utilized, it will consist of a baby picture and an  
26 appropriate current picture of the graduate. The slide presentation will last for no longer than  
27 ten (10) minutes. The music chosen to accompany the slide presentation must be approved  
28 in advance by the principal. The slide show must be in the principal's hands for approval one  
29 week before graduation day. If any of the above criteria are not met, the show must either be  
30 corrected within three days to meet criteria, or it will not be allowed.
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32 4. Speakers: Student speakers will consist of a short welcome by the class president and brief  
33 speeches by the class valedictorian and salutatorian. Other students may be allowed to say a  
34 few words, such as foreign exchange students. All speeches must be approved in advance by  
35 the class advisors and principal. The charge to the class will be given by a current or retired  
36 district staff member chosen by vote of the class. Special consideration can be given to  
37 special speakers such as the Governor, area legislators, etc., at the discretion of the principal  
38 and class advisors.
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40 5. Recessional: Graduates will recess to either a selection by the band or to music approved by  
41 class advisors and the principal.
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43 6. Any graduate showing up for commencement or graduation practice under the influence of  
44 drugs or alcohol will not be allowed to participate in commencement exercises.
- 45 7. Presentation of the class diplomas will be the responsibility of the school administration and  
46 the school board. All other unforeseen last minute problems will fall under the direct authority  
47 of the administration.
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49 8. It should be understood that commencement exercises are not mandatory, and students may  
50 choose not to participate and receive their diploma at another time.

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55 **LEGAL REFERENCE: 120-12 Wis. Stats.**  
56 **First Reading: 02/16/98**

**Adopted: 03/16/98**  
**Amended: 02/19/01**  
**Amended: 07/18/05**  
**Reviewed: 02-16-09**

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60 **Clerk** \_\_\_\_\_