



Home of the Bobcats!
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**Paradise High School
Graduation Requirements and Ceremony Policy
Board Policy 5127.1**

**Paradise High School believes that in order to ensure that seniors meet their academic requirements for graduation; an expectation for attendance must be implemented and monitored. Due to the correlation between regular attendance and academic achievement, students must be present to complete their course work successfully and to receive information necessary to concluding their high school career. Furthermore, in order to maintain a safe and orderly campus, it is necessary for Paradise High School to maintain high standards for student behavior. Expectations are as follows:

1. Students must meet all academic requirements.
2. Students may not have 5 (FIVE) unexcused absences in any one class during the second semester of their senior year.

**When a student reaches 4 (FOUR) unexcused absences in any one class during their second semester of their senior year, they will lose the opportunity to attend both the senior picnic and the Prom.

**When a student reaches 5 (FIVE) unexcused absences in any one class during the second semester of their senior year, the student will be ineligible to participate in the graduation ceremony, unless they serve the next assigned Saturday School. Saturday school is offered on the third Saturday of each month with the exceptions of August, September, December and January. Please note that this option may only be used once. Any further unexcused absences beyond this point will make the student ineligible to participate in the graduation ceremony.

3. A student may not be suspended from school for three or more days during the second semester of their senior year.
4. In order to ensure that all students are honored respectfully and that the decorum of the ceremony is preserved, students are required to attend both graduation practices prior to graduation. Arrangements may be made ahead of time with school administration regarding any exception requests.

**Administrative Rule
Graduation Ceremony Policy
Paradise High School**

1. Paradise High School will make contact with students and their parents at least once prior to a student's losing any privileges their senior year—i.e. senior picnic, Prom and/or the graduation ceremony. Parents will be called by Paradise High School when the student reaches three unexcused

absences (or sooner) to make sure that they are aware of the policy and the possible loss of privileges if a student obtains any more unexcused absences (cuts).

2. Paradise High School will communicate the school's graduation policy to its students and its parents in the following ways:
 - a. At the beginning of the school year each student has received a Student Handbook with the policy laid out in it.
 - b. The policy can be viewed on the school's website at www.phs.pusdk12.org
 - c. Administration will make classroom visits at the beginning of the second semester to notify and provide a copy of the policy to each senior.
 - d. This same information will be mailed to senior's parents at the beginning of the second semester.
 - e. The policy will be included in the 1st Bobcat News of the second semester.
 - f. Students and parents will be contacted when the student has reached three unexcused absences and before any loss of privileges takes place. The policy will be discussed at this point to ensure that both students and parents understand the policy in its entirety and how it will be carried out when and if a student reaches four and/or five unexcused absences.

3. In regards to which absences are excused versus unexcused, Paradise High School will reference and follow the Educational Code as follows:

48205. (a) Notwithstanding Section **48200**, a pupil shall be excused from school when the absence is:
- (1) Due to his or her illness.
 - (2) Due to quarantine under the direction of a county or city health officer.
 - (3) For the purpose of having medical, dental, optometric, or chiropractic services rendered.
 - (4) For the purpose of attending the funeral services of a member of his or her immediate family, so long as the absence is not more than one day if the service is conducted in California and not more than three days if the service is conducted outside California.
 - (5) For the purpose of jury duty in the manner provided for by law.
 - (6) Due to the illness or medical appointment during school hours of a child of whom the pupil is the custodial parent.
 - (7) For justifiable personal reasons, including, but not limited to, an appearance in court, attendance at a funeral service, observance of a holiday or ceremony of his or her religion, attendance at religious retreats, attendance at an employment conference, or attendance at an educational conference on the legislative or judicial process offered by a nonprofit organization when the pupil's absence is requested in writing by the parent or guardian and approved by the principal or a designated representative pursuant to uniform standards established by the governing board.
 - (8) For the purpose of serving as a member of a precinct board for an election pursuant to Section 12302 of the Elections **Code**.
- (b) A pupil absent from school under this section shall be allowed

to complete all assignments and tests missed during the absence that can be reasonably provided and, upon satisfactory completion within a reasonable period of time, shall be given full credit therefore. The teacher of the class from which a pupil is absent shall determine which tests and assignments shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the tests and assignments that the pupil missed during the absence.

(c) For purposes of this section, attendance at religious retreats shall not exceed four hours per semester.