

## **EARLY GRADUATION**

Each year, a number of high school students request permission to graduate prior to their anticipated graduation date because they feel they have educational or vocational needs which mandate that they be exempted from the traditional four year program. For the early graduation application procedure, students electing early graduation or release shall not have a four-year final rank in class.

### **I Criteria for Early Graduation (Full Year Release)**

- A) Student has grade average C or better, first two years.
- B) Student has good attendance record.
- C) Student exhibits good citizenship.
  - 1) Conduct
  - 2) Effort - Maturity
  - 3) Activities
- D) Student has completed core curriculum. There shall be no waiver of any course or credit requirements. (Due to MA Core 2014 requirements)
- E) Early release is requested to pursue further education.
  - 1) Are the educational opportunities of such a nature that they cannot be met while attending Wareham High School?
  - 2) Is early graduation required because of a job opportunity or for monetary reasons?
  - 3) Time line – the formal school application procedure should be initiated by June 1<sup>st</sup> of the sophomore year.
- F) Early release is requested in order to pursue a Career.
  - 1) Are the career opportunities of such a nature that they require early release?
  - 2) Is the work experience related to the high school curriculum?
  - 3) Time line – the formal school application procedure should be initiated by June 1<sup>st</sup> of the sophomore year.
- G) Student has achieved competency determination on MCAS.

### **II Requirements for Early Graduation**

- A) A letter from the student requesting early graduation detailing the goals which require early release.
- B) A letter from the student's parent or guardian in support of the request.
- C) If the goal involves further education, a statement from the institution verifying acceptance of the applicant who will be released early.
- D) If the goal involves a career, a statement from the employer specifying the job and his/her acceptance or employment.

- E) An interview with the Principal, parent, counselor, and student.
- F) Complete three years of high school education

### **III Time Line**

Full – year Release

1. June 1 of sophomore year - Letter of application and parent's letter to be sent to the Principal.
2. June 15 - Decision by the Principal.
3. February 1 – Recommendation of the Principal to the Superintendent
4. End of Semester II – Final Review: Principal approves releases at the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester

### **IV Conditions of Release**

A follow-up will be initiated by the Guidance Department, agreed to by the Administration. Students are entitled to participate in the graduation exercises of class and are eligible for most scholarships.

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