

**Commencement Ceremony**

The cap and gown are traditional symbols representing twelve years of successful academic achievement and indicate to society a milestone in a student’s life. The district requires every student participation in the Commencement Ceremony to abide by the following dress code:

- All students will wear the graduation cap and gown.
- Students are encouraged to wear dress attire beneath their graduation gown. This includes dress trousers, dress shirts/ties, or a dress with dress shoes. (Possible examples of inappropriate shoes include flip flops, rain boots, or bare feet, etc.).
- When wearing the cap and gown, a student shall conduct themselves with dignity and decorum.
- External chords/ ornaments attached to the cap and/or gown are prohibited except for honor chords/stoles approved in advance and directly related to an authorized Holdenville School organization, club, or activity, or an academic honor awarded by Holdenville School.

Students will not participate in the Commencement Ceremony with unauthorized accessories attached to the cap and/or gown. An exception may be made in the instances involving the genuine exercise of religious practices. Any parent or legal guardian of a student desiring an exception on the basis of a religious practice shall notify the principal in writing and seek prior approval of the exception no later than April 1<sup>st</sup> preceding the Commencement Ceremony. The factual basis along with documentation shall be included in the request. (Pursuant to the Attorney General’s Opinion issued October 23, 2018)

January 13, 2020

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Date Approved