DIFFERENTIAL GRADUATION AND COMPETENCY STANDARDS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

- 1. Each student in the district shall meet the course of study as established by the Governing Board and pass the California High School Exit Exam, in order to receive a high school-diploma. The only exception to this requirement are students declared as "exceptional."

 The term "exceptional" student, as used in these regulations, shall include all students who have been diagnosed, legally certified, and enrolled in special education programs.
- 2. "Exceptional" students shall meet the district's course of study whenever possible and appropriate.
- 3. An alternative course of study shall not be established until the student is of high schoolage. Student should be given every possible opportunity to pass the district prescribed course of study. The decision to opt for alternative course of study should be made very carefully with consideration of all data.

Once an "exceptional" student has met the district's alternative course of study—prescribed in his/her IEP, he/she is eligible for a certificate of completion.

- 4. In making a determination of whether the student's diagnosed learning handicaps or disabilities are such as would preclude them from attaining the district's prescribed course of study, the following shall be taken into consideration.
- a. Examine the students most recent annual review. Given the amount of time before the student's anticipated graduation date and the regular and special education services that the district is able to provide during that period, determine the likelihood that the student will-have a reasonable opportunity to meet the district's prescribed course of study and pass the California High School Exit Exam.
- 5. The selected course of study is subject to revision during the annual review of the student's IEP. If an alternative is recommended, the student and his/her parents are to be informed of the student's right to attempt the district's prescribed course of study.

Accommodations for individual students must be the result of careful consideration by the IEP team since the receipt of a high school diploma depends upon the successful completion of the district's prescribed course of study and passing the California High School Exit Exam.

Students not Meeting Regular or Alternative Course of Study

Some students cannot reasonably be expected to meet the district's course of study. When such is the case, the IEP team shall indicate on the IEP that the course of study is not directed to meet the requirements for a high school diploma.

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Maintenance of Accommodations

Accommodations for a secondary level special education student may be maintained through high school graduation even though the student has been terminated from a special education class. In order to satisfy this condition, the final Individualized Education Program (IEP) must state the intent to maintain accommodations. In addition, the implication of this option must be explained to parents (and student when appropriate) when the final IEP is developed.

This option may be used only when the students exit special education while in high school.

Award of Diploma

The regular high school diploma shall be awarded to special education students who complete the graduation requirements and pass the California High School Exit Exam.

Regulation PERRIS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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