During the 2025 Legislative Session, <u>House Bill 1068</u>, which allows a student to wear a sash, stole, or other military decoration at a school graduation ceremony, if the sash, stole, or decoration was issued to the student by the South Dakota National Guard or a branch of the armed forces, for the purposes of being worn at the graduation ceremony, was passed and signed into law.

<u>HB 1068</u> included an emergency clause, which means the new graduation attire requirement begins with this year's graduation ceremonies and must be followed by your district.

ASBSD has drafted and adopted a new <u>school board sample policy</u> for your district to consider in IKFB: Graduation Ceremony Decoration, which includes the process of the student wearing sash, stole, or decoration at graduation, as well as the procedure for a student wearing a Native American eagle feather, eagle plume or beaded graduation cap also permitted in state law.



The sample policy is attached and can also be found at http://policy.asbsd.org. Your district's login and password information has been previously provided to your district's administration.

For questions related to **the policy**, contact Director of Policy & Legal Services Naomi Cromwell at **ncromwell@asbsd.org** or at 605-773-2513.

Questions about the bill can be directed to ASBSD Executive Director Heath Larson at hlarson@asbsd.org or at 605-773-2503 or myself at the contact information below.

Thank you.