

**McKinney Independent School District**  
#1 Duvall Street, McKinney, Texas 75069

**To:** Board of Trustees  
**From:** Shawn Pratt, Superintendent  
**Subject:** FMH (Local)  
**Date:** May 18, 2026

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The District is recommending revisions to the current language in FMH (Local) regarding student participation in commencement ceremonies. These revisions are necessary due to anticipated changes in assessment reporting timelines from the Texas Education Agency (TEA).

Currently, the District relies on assessment results reported by TEA to verify that students have met state graduation testing requirements. However, changes resulting from House Bill 8 (HB8), passed during the Second Called Session of the 89th Texas Legislature, will affect when those results are available to school districts.

HB8 requires TEA to automatically rescore Extended Constructed Response (ECR) items on Reading Language Arts state assessments, including the English I and English II STAAR End-of-Course exams, for students whose raw scores fall within one point of the next performance level. Although the law does not require implementation of this process until Spring 2028, TEA began applying the automatic rescoring process during the 2025–2026 school year.

As a result, final assessment results impacted by the rescoring process may not be available until after the close of the academic year. This delay could affect a student's eligibility to participate in commencement ceremonies beginning with the 2025–2026 school year.

In addition, HB8 requires TEA to move the administration window for end-of-year state assessments to May beginning in the 2027–2028 school year. Because of these later testing windows, commencement ceremonies may occur before final assessment results are received from TEA starting in Spring 2028.

**Impact Statement:** Approval of this policy revision will allow students who have satisfied all other graduation requirements to participate in commencement ceremonies while the District awaits final assessment results from TEA.

**It is Recommended:** The Board approve the change to FMH(Local)

**Resource Person(s):** Jennifer Akins, Debra Fort, Jeff Banner

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shawn Pratt  
Superintendent