

## **Shelby County Board of Education**

**6035**

**Issued Date: 08/26/10**

**Revised Date: 07/15/14, 10/25/16**

# **HONORARY DIPLOMA**

## **I. PURPOSE**

To facilitate the issuance of honorary diplomas to eligible students and/or their immediate family members.

## **II. SCOPE**

This policy applies to students who died while they were enrolled in Shelby County Schools and United States veterans of World War I, World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

## **III. POLICY STATEMENT**

### **Diplomas for Deceased Shelby County Schools Students**

In the event of the death of a student who is currently enrolled in a Shelby County high school prior to his/her anticipated graduation date, the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the deceased student may contact the principal (or principal's designee) of the high school and ask permission to honor their child with an honorary diploma.

If the parent(s)/guardian(s) requests an honorary diploma, the principal shall provide the name of the student to the Superintendent for recommendation to the Board of Education for approval. However, to expedite the approval process in extenuating circumstances and/or emergency situations, requests for honorary diplomas may be made to the Superintendent or designee for approval. In such cases, the Superintendent shall notify the Board of the decision no later than the next regular Board meeting following the approval.

Upon approval, the principal will arrange for an appropriate time and place for the recognition of the deceased student and presentation of the honorary diploma to the parent(s)/guardian(s).

## **Diplomas for World War, Korean War or Vietnam War Veterans**

Shelby County Schools may, upon request, facilitate the issuance of high school diplomas to veterans who failed to receive diplomas due to an interruption of their education by service in World War I, World War II, the Korean War or the Vietnam War. This provision applies to the high school diploma of an eligible deceased veteran, upon the request of the veteran's surviving spouse, if any, or other immediate family members.

The veteran or a deceased veteran's spouse/immediate family requesting a diploma does not have to be a current resident of this state at the time of the request for issuance of the high school diploma.

Shelby County Schools shall adhere to the guidance of the Tennessee State Department of Education when facilitating the issuance of honorary high school diplomas under this provision.

### **IV. RESPONSIBILITY**

- A. The Chief Academic Office is responsible for administering this policy.
- B. The Superintendent is responsible for ensuring that this policy is followed.

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Legal References:

1. TCA 49-2-119

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Cross References: