

Colorado Graduation Guidelines Promising Practice

District/System	Greeley-Evans 6
School	University High School (public charter school)
Contact Information	
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Title of artifact	Senior Project Projects to Avoid Letter – University HS
Type of practice	Communications

Brief description of artifact

This letter alerts the student to edit their Senior Project proposal because their letter of intent describes a project listed in the Senior Project Handbook under “Projects to Avoid.” Addressing issues in a revised letter may result in circumstances or exceptions that achieve project approval.

Brief description of the process resulting in the artifact

University High School has required senior projects for over 20 years. University High School has five pathway diplomas, and the senior project is required for all. Last year they revised the requirement to include more accountability and consistent quality. Items were developed to communicate changes in the project requirement to specific audiences.

Types of practices in the CDE Graduation Guidelines Promising Practices collection:

1. Communications, such as announcements to school community and business community
2. Implementation process plans, such as strategic plans and timelines
3. Implementation tools connected to local graduation requirements, for instance:
 - o Testing implementation (ACT, AP, ASVAB, CMAS, IB, PARCC, SAT), such as classes and retreats, administration procedures and agreements
 - o Capstone implementation, such as instructions and samples
 - o Concurrent Enrollment implementation, such as classes and agreements
 - o Career/academic assessment implementation (e.g., ACCUPLACER, COMPASS, Work Keys), such as administration procedures and agreements
 - o Industry Certificates implementation, such as samples
4. Local graduation requirements aligned with state guidelines, such as board policies
5. Regarding students with exceptionalities
6. Other: _____

Dear Student,

Your letter of intent describes a project from the list below of “projects to avoid”. Most of projects below have exceptions or circumstances under which they may be acceptable. It is your responsibility to address these issues in the Letter of Intent before submitting it for faculty review. Please resubmit by the date below to be considered for early project approval. Otherwise, you may wait and submit a Letter of Intent next September.

Date:

Ms. Sample

Projects to Avoid (From Page 8 of the 2016 Senior Project handbook)

- Painting murals on the walls
- Art can be created on canvases and donated to the school
 - **EXCEPTION:** Painting on the walls of a teacher’s classroom.
- Sports camps for kids - *unless the student can explain how they will be responsible for all aspects of planning and implementing the camp (not just carrying out a coach’s plans)*
- Organizational/traditional fundraisers i.e. plug and play fundraisers
 - Example: Kills for the Cure, collection boxes in classrooms,
 - **EXCEPTION:** If a student has a significant/intricate/pivotal role in designing and implementing the fundraiser
- School “improvement” projects
 - **EXCEPTION:** With approval of the director and if the advisor is willing to actively supervise ALL aspects of the project. Your letter of intent must specify design and construction checkpoints with approval required from the mentor, the advisor and Dr. Gerner.