

**Section 600 – Instruction**  
**Academic Achievement**  
**Invocations or Benedictions at School**

**File: 611.50**

The Holt County School District No. 7 shall not officially endorse any invocations, or benedictions presented at any school events.

Invocations or benedictions may be presented at graduation ceremonies if the following criteria are observed:

1. The students shall determine prior to an event if an invocation or benedictions is desired to solemnize the occasion. Students in the class or activity shall vote to determine if they wish to have an invocation or benediction presented. If the vote is favorable for an invocation or benediction, the invocation or benediction shall be prepared and presented by a member or members of the class or activity.
2. Students shall not be required to attend the event. This shall include members of the class or activity or any students participating in the ceremony.
3. The invocation or benediction shall be non-sectarian and non-proselytizing. It shall not advance or inhibit any religion.
4. No member of the school staff or the board of education shall participate in the development or presentation of the invocation or benediction.

Holt County School District No. 7 and all of its board of education members, administrators, employees, and agents, shall not sponsor or in any way endorse the views, aims, policies, opinions, or contents of any speaker at graduation ceremonies and remain totally neutral thereto.