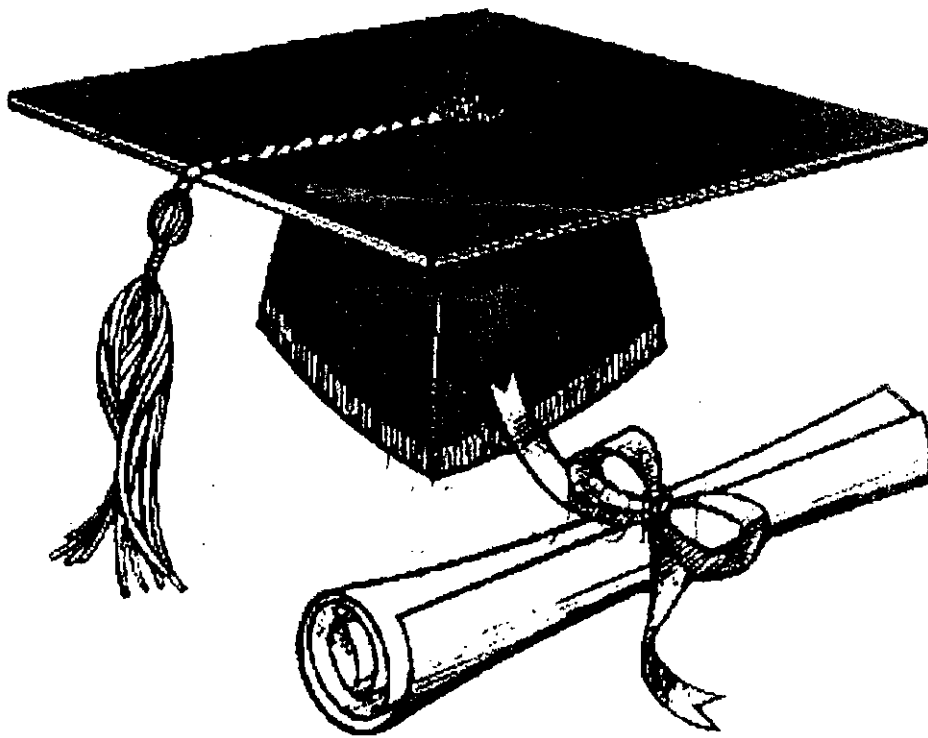


Mrs. Means 216

Ringgold High School



Graduation Project

RINGGOLD HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION PROJECT

As a requirement for graduation, every student will complete a high school graduation project. This mandate complies with the Chapter 4 High School Graduation Project required by the State of Pennsylvania. The requirement began with the graduating class of 2003.

The purpose of the project is to assure that students have the ability to apply, analyze, synthesize and evaluate information and that they are able to communicate significant knowledge and understanding of the information. Thus, the graduation project will provide the student with a meaningful, purposeful, and relevant learning experience.

Students may choose one of the following options to fulfill the Graduation Project requirement:

- 1. Students may work independently with a facilitator on a project of their choice.**
- 2. Students may complete a project at the Mon Valley Career Technology Center.**
- 3. Students may complete a project as a component of the School to Career program.**
- 4. Students may complete a project through volunteer service in the community.**

No student is expected to incur a financial obligation to complete a project. Should the student elect to make a financial investment in the project, the student, parents and/or guardians must assume that financial obligation.

Once a student has selected a project, he or she will write a project report that explains the project. The student will also prepare for an oral component, which will be presented to the appropriate committee.

The following is a timeline for student progression through the various components of the Graduation Project:

- 1. Sophomore Year – Submit Graduation Project proposals.**
- 2. Junior Year – Students work on or complete Graduation Projects and present to the Graduation Project Committee.**
- 3. Senior Year – Students must complete Graduation Project by the end of the 3rd nine weeks.**

The Graduation Project will be evaluated O, S, or U and will be ¼ of a credit toward graduation. No quality points are awarded in an O, S, or U course.

A student who fails to complete the Senior Graduation Project successfully will NOT be eligible for a diploma and will NOT participate in the graduation ceremony.

GRADUATION PROJECT GUIDELINES
RINGGOLD HIGH SCHOOL

- 1. A staff committee will be formed to oversee the Graduation Project.**
- 2. Students will follow the timeline for student progression.**
- 3. Projects are primarily learning activities and processes and are not just an evaluation activity. Students will be encouraged to undertake projects in which they have abilities or interests.**
- 4. Each student will have a project facilitator. Facilitators will be staff members.**
- 5. The student and the facilitator will jointly develop appropriate criteria and a timetable for the project. This information will be submitted to the Graduation Project Committee (all departments will constitute a committee) at the outset of the project.**
- 6. An Evaluation Committee consisting of staff members from the various departments will determine if the project meets the requirements as determined by the established criteria.**
- 7. Projects judged as unsatisfactory will be given additional time to accomplish recommended revisions or adjustments.**
- 8. A presentation to the Evaluation Committee is required of every Graduation Project. Each presentation must contain an oral segment.**

POSSIBLE ITEMS FOR GRADUATION PROJECT
RINGGOLD HIGH SCHOOL

Listed below are some possibilities for project topics. A student may choose additional topics as approved by the Graduation Project Committee.

ITEMS

Written

1. Poetry
2. Drama
3. Research Paper
4. Essay
5. Newspaper Article
6. Song/music
7. Lesson Plan
8. Journal/log
9. Publications

Oral

1. Reenact a dramatic scene
2. Participate in a debate
3. Deliver a speech
4. Teach lessons to cover a topic
5. Conduct a panel discussion

Practical

1. Video tape
2. Collections
3. Demonstrations/experiments
4. Visual art projects
5. Public/community services
6. Work study/manual labor
7. Field excursions
8. Guest presentations
9. Interviews
10. Public performances

TOPIC SUGGESTIONS

Academic Projects

1. Organize and oversee a science fair
2. Statistical projects/research
3. Math/Computer projects
4. Design a foreign language software package
5. Create and design a house

6. **Engineering project**
7. **Compose foreign language short story or collection**
8. **Develop itinerary for trip abroad, including costs, needs, etc.**
9. **Devise foreign language game**
10. **Dramatic interpretation in foreign language**
11. **Fashion show in foreign language**
12. **Clothing or craft project**
13. **Plan preschool activities for a daycare center**
14. **Home decorating and interior design project**
15. **Weaving fabric and constructing clothing**
16. **Novel project**
17. **Write a portfolio exhibiting three genres of literature**
18. **Visual interpretation of major literary work**
19. **Intensive study of major author and work**
20. **Life-skills portfolio**
21. **Multi-disciplinary research project**
22. **Write, perform, and evaluate original dramatic production**
23. **Research and critique dietary guideline of local health care facility**
24. **Organize and oversee a health fair**
25. **Instrumental/musical recitals**
26. **Videotape/photograph historical architecture of a community**

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

1. **Develop and institute a tutoring program**
2. **Write a computer program for administration**
3. **Design and publish a newsletter using Desktop Publishing**
4. **Develop several pamphlets describing research on careers or colleges**
5. **Video about physical fitness and health issues**
6. **Work with elementary classes**
7. **Aesthetic projects, murals, landscaping**

INTERNSHIPS

1. **Internship in business firm in entry level or higher position**
2. **Internship with elementary teacher/subject area teacher**
3. **Internship in health related career**
4. **Internship with government or private industry**
5. **Internship with newspaper or publishing entity**
6. **Internship with designing firm/local theater/art association**
7. **Internship at daycare center**
8. **Apprentice with seamstress or tailor**

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

1. **Prepare income taxes for elderly/disadvantaged**
2. **Coordinate service project for philanthropic organization**

- 3. Volunteer at a geriatric facility**
- 4. Volunteer at a hospital/nursing home (candy striper)**
- 5. Examine community needs and implement improvement project**
- 6. Refurbish a historical sight**

ENTREPRENEUR PROJECTS

- 1. Set up a small business and keep all records**
- 2. Operate expanded student store**
- 3. Organize and oversee fundraiser for charity**
- 4. Form a company and design, develop, and produce a product**
- 5. Establish a catering business**
- 6. Establish coffee shop**

DEFINITIONS

1. **Graduation Project:** a well organized program which requires the student to plan, prepare, and/or research information in order to successfully complete an item/topic that showcases the student's talents and interests.
2. **Facilitator:** a Ringgold High School professional employee who guides the student through the process of the Graduation Project.
3. **Procedure Time Line:** a prospectus or proposed time frame formulated by the student which generally outlines the work necessary to complete his/her project.
4. **Research:** essentially any information gathered, gained, borrowed, or used to complete not only the item/topic but also the required project report.
5. **Project Report:** a paper which provides information and data regarding the student's project. It must reflect a logical arrangement of ideas and must be written according to the English Department's format.
6. **Item:** a physical product which, whenever necessary, can be represented through transparencies, photographs, slides, audiovisual recordings, etc.
7. **Oral Component:** the student will either participate in an oral presentation of his/her project or a question-answer session with the evaluation committee.
8. **Explanation:** the student must discuss the project from its inception with the evaluation committee.
9. **Evaluation Committee:** a group/panel of Ringgold High School professional employees who will assess the student's project, presentation, and/or product.
10. **Criteria:** a set of standards used to evaluate the Graduation Project.
11. **Evaluation:** the Evaluation Committee will use the appropriate criteria previously set to rate the Graduation Project. The final rating of the Graduation Project will be **OUTSTANDING, SATISFACTORY, or UNSATISFACTORY**. Any student who receives an **UNSATISFACTORY** final rating will be advised by the committee and will present his/her project for re-evaluation at a later date. If the unsatisfactory is received at the end of the 3rd nine weeks of the senior year, the student must participate in an Exit Interview.

12. **Resume:** a summary or a statement of a student's experience, education, etc. A resume is necessary if the student is participating in the Senior Exit Interview.
13. **Portfolio:** The portfolio is a selection of representative works that should reflect the student's abilities and accomplishments. Students will need to create a portfolio if participating in the Senior Exit Interview.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FACILITATOR, THE STUDENT, AND
THE EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

A. THE FACILITATOR

1. Guides the student through the Graduation Project process.
2. Emphasizes to the student his/her responsibilities and deadlines.
3. Meets with the student throughout the year to guide his/her progress on the project.
4. Communicates with the school administration and parents regarding the student's lack of progress on the project.
5. Sets up the time and site for the Evaluation Committee to rate the Graduation Project.

B. THE STUDENT

1. Selects an item/topic of special interest or concern.
2. Successfully completes ALL requirements within the time frames established for the Graduation Project.
3. Prepares a project report that satisfies the established criteria for the Graduation Project.
4. Participates in the oral component that satisfies the established criteria for the Graduation Project.
5. Presents ALL ASPECTS of the Graduation Project to the Evaluation Committee.

C. EVALUATION COMMITTEE

1. Establish and agree to a presentation time and site.
2. Read the written portion of the Graduation Project submitted by the student prior to the presentation.

3. Attend and evaluate the presentation using the appropriate scoring guide.
4. Advise any student who receives an **UNSATISFACTORY** rating of the corrections to be made and set a time agreeable to the committee and the student for re-evaluation.

YEAR OF GRADUATION _____

*Ringgold High School
1 Ram Drive
Monongahela, PA 15063*

*(724) 258-2200
Principal - Mr. Dwayne A. Homa
Assistant Principals - Mr. Jack V. Linetty, Mr. Jeff Matty*

Graduation Project Topic

Date _____

(Title of Project)

by

(Student Name)

(Facilitator)

I hereby agree to accept and complete the requirements of the Graduation Project.

(Student Signature)

I am aware of the topic my son/daughter has chosen.

(Parent Signature)

No student is expected to incur a financial obligation to complete a project. Should the student elect to make a financial investment in the project, the student, parents and/or guardians must assume that financial obligation.

If there are safety issues – how will you deal with them?

General time frame

Materials Used

Cost of Materials if Any

Time spent planning project

Time spent carrying out the project

GRADUATION PROJECT STUDENT PROGRESS REPORT

Date _____

Dear Parent or Guardian:

This written notification is being sent concerning _____'s lack of progress with regard to the Graduation Project. Please keep in mind that this project is a requirement for graduation, that the project report, presentation, and/or product are due by the end of the 3rd nine weeks of the senior year, and that if failure to work toward completion of this project and its required components continues, school board policy concerning graduation requirements must be followed.

Please feel free to contact me at Ringgold High School (724) 258-2200 if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

Facilitator

STUDENT NUMBER _____

YEAR OF GRADUATION _____

GRADUATION PROJECT EVALUATION

STUDENT NAME _____ **DATE** _____

PROJECT TITLE _____

FACILITATOR _____

EVALUATOR'S SIGNATURE _____

Circle the rating in each category

Project Report **Outstanding** **Satisfactory** **Unsatisfactory**

Oral Component **Outstanding** **Satisfactory** **Unsatisfactory**

Product
(if applicable) **Outstanding** **Satisfactory** **Unsatisfactory**

A rating of all Outstanding = Outstanding

A rating combination of Outstanding and Satisfactory = Satisfactory

ANY rating combination with an Unsatisfactory = Unsatisfactory

FINAL RATING

OUTSTANDING

SATISFACTORY

UNSATISFACTORY