From time to time it may be appropriate to recognize the significant contributions made to the nation, the State of Tennessee, Knox County or the Knox County Schools by various individuals at great personal sacrifice. The Knox County Board of Education authorizes honorary high school diplomas to be awarded to members of the community who have made such contributions without regard to themselves or their personal benefit.

Individual members of the Board of Education, School Principals and the Director of Schools may nominate individuals whom they believe should be recognized through an honorary diploma. Nominations will be made to the Executive Committee of the Board of Education, and the Executive Committee will serve as the approval authority for all honorary diplomas.

Posthumously awarding an honorary diploma will only be considered in cases where the nominee died in active military service or in immediate service to the citizens of Knox County.

Nothing in this policy is intended to amend or supersede Chapter 49-2-119 (Diplomas for World War or Korean War veterans) of the Tennessee Code Annotated.