



Book Policy Manual
Section Policies for the Board
Title Copy of PATRIOTIC CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES
Code po8760
Status

~~8760--PATRIOTIC CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES~~

~~Acknowledgement of, explanation of, and teaching about religious holidays of various religions is encouraged. Celebration activities involving nonreligious decorations and use of secular works are permitted, but it is the responsibility of all faculty members to ensure that such activities are strictly voluntary, do not place an atmosphere of social compulsion or ostracism on minority groups or individuals, and do not interfere with the regular school program. At the discretion of the Superintendent, a moment of silence may be provided each school day for prayer, reflection, or mediation upon a moral, philosophical, or patriotic theme. However, students shall not be compelled to participate. The flag of the United States shall be raised above each school and/or at other appropriate places during all school sessions, weather permitting. The flag shall be raised before the opening of school and taken down at its close every day.~~

~~The mottoes of the United States of America ("In God We Trust") and the State of Ohio ("With God, All Things Are Possible") shall be displayed in an appropriate manner in a classroom, auditorium, or cafeteria of a school building of the District. If copies of the mottoes or money to purchase copies of the mottoes are donated to the District. The donated or purchased copies of the mottoes shall meet the applicable design requirements as provided by statute. Furthermore, the Board required that an observance be scheduled each year on or about Veterans Day to convey the meaning and significance of that day to all students and staff. The amount of time each school devotes to this observance shall be at least one (1) hours or, in schools that schedule class periods of less than one (1) hour, at least one (1) standard class period. The Board shall determine the specific activities to constitute observances in each school in the District after consulting with the school's administrators.~~

~~Professional staff members are authorized to lead students in the Pledge of Allegiance at an appropriate time each school day. However, no student shall be compelled/required to participate in the recitation of the Pledge. Additionally, the Board prohibits the intimidation of any student by other students or staff of the purposes of coercing participation. The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines which ensure that any staff member who conducts this activities does it at an appropriate time, in an appropriate manner, and with due regard to the need to protect the rights and the privacy of a nonparticipating student.~~

Legal R.C. 3315.062, 3327.09