BOARD POLICY

807 - for Board Review Opening Exercises/Moment of Silence/Flag Displays

POLICY NUMBER	VERSION	DOCUMENT STATUS	WORKFLOW
807 - for Board Review	v2.1	UNDER REVIEW	First Reading

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Purpose

The Board adopts this policy to ensure that all district schools comply with state and federal laws concerning flag displays**,** opening exercises **and the moment of silence on the anniversary of September 11,** while respecting the rights of individuals.**The Board further recognizes the importance of honoring the service and sacrifice of members of the United States Armed Forces, including those who have been prisoners of war or remain missing in action.**

Authority

A United States flag shall be displayed in classrooms and on or near each school building during school hours, in clement weather and at other times determined by the Board.[1]

District schools shall provide opening exercises that include a salute to the flag and/or recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance or the National Anthem.[1]

Students may decline to recite the Pledge of Allegiance or National Anthem and to salute the flag on the basis of personal belief or religious conviction. Students who choose to refrain from such participation shall respect the rights and interests of classmates who do participate.[1][2]

Guidelines

Display of the POW/MIA Flag

In recognition of the courage, service, and sacrifice of American prisoners of war and members of the United States Armed Forces who remain missing in action, the Board directs that the official National League of Families POW/MIA flag shall be displayed at each District school building.

The POW/MIA flag shall be displayed at at least 1 location on or near the exterior of each school building whenever the United States flag is displayed outdoors, subject to applicable flag protocols, weather conditions, and safety considerations.

The United States flag shall occupy the position of superior prominence in accordance with established flag etiquette.

The Superintendent or designee shall determine the appropriate location and method of display at each school building. Existing flagpoles or other suitable mounting arrangements may be utilized.

The District shall provide for the acquisition, installation, maintenance, and replacement of POW/MIA flags.

The Board directs the district to annually provide, during instructional hours, a moment of silence for students and staff to observe the anniversary of September 11, 2001.[4]

Legal Footnotes

[1] **24 P.S. 771**
LEGAL REFERENCE

[2] **22 PA Code 12.10**
LEGAL REFERENCE

[4] **24 P.S. 1555**
LEGAL REFERENCE