Instruction BP 6115

CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES

The Governing Board recognizes the importance of having students observe holidays, celebrate events of cultural or historical significance, and acknowledge the contributions of outstanding individuals in society. On days designated by the Board, staff shall provide students with appropriate commemorative exercises so that they may acquire the knowledge, skills, and principles essential for informed, responsible citizenship in a democratic society.

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(cf. 6111 - School Calendar)
(cf. 6141.2 - Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs)
(cf. 6142.94 - History-Social Science Instruction)
(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)
(cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)
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Display of Flag

The flag of the United States and the flag of California shall be displayed during business hours at the entrance or on the grounds of every district school and on or near the district office. At all times, the national flag shall be placed in the position of first honor. (Government Code 431, 436; 4 USC 6)

When displayed on a building or on a flagstaff in the open, the national flag shall be displayed only from sunrise to sunset unless properly illuminated during the hours of darkness. The flag should not be displayed during inclement weather unless an all-weather flag is used. (4 USC 6)

The national flag shall fly at half-staff on the following occasions: (4 USC 7)

- 1. For 30 days from the death of the President or a former President
- 2. For 10 days from the death of the Vice President, the Chief Justice or a retired Chief Justice, or the Speaker of the House of Representatives
- 3. From the day of death until interment of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, a secretary of an executive or military department, former Vice President, or the Governor of a state
- 4. On the day of death and the following day for a Member of Congress
- 5. On Memorial Day, until noon only
- 6. On Peace Officers Memorial Day (May 15), unless it falls on Armed Forces Day
- 7. Upon a proclamation from the Governor in the event of the death of a present or former official of the state government or a member of the Armed Forces from the state who has died while serving on active duty
- 8. On other occasions by order of the President and in accordance with presidential instructions or orders

Commemorative Flags

Option A:

Given the vast number of organizations and groups that have specific days, weeks, and months to honor, the Antioch Unified School District does not fly any flag other than the flag of the United States and the

flag of California. As such, it would not be appropriate for the District to provide prominence to one cause over another.

Option B:

Given the vast number of organizations and groups that have specific days, weeks, and months to honor, the Antioch Unified School District does not fly any flag other than the flag of the United States and the flag of California. As such, it would not be appropriate for the District to provide prominence to one cause over another with the exception of the following which has/have particular significance to the District and its students:

- Flying the rainbow flag, also known as the LGBT pride flag, during the month of June symbolizing the District's celebration of diversity and support for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender community.
- (additional flags can be added at the discretion of the Board)

Option C:

- 1. Commemorative flags may be displayed only as authorized by resolution of the Board of Education and as an expression of the Boards' official sentiments.
- 2. Commemorative flags shall be displayed for a period of time that is reasonable or customary for the subject that is to be commemorated, but no longer than ____ days.
- 3. The District will not display a commemorative flag based on a request from a third party, nor will the District use its flagpoles to sponsor the expression of a third party.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

37220-37223 Saturdays and holidays

44015.1 Week of the School Administrator

45203 Paid holidays

45460 Classified Employee Week

52720 Daily performance of patriotic exercises in public schools

52730 Patriotic exercises, daily instruction

GOVERNMENT CODE

430-439 Display of flags

3540-3549.3 Meeting and negotiating

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 4

6 Time and occasion for display of flag

7 Position and manner of display of flag

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 36

106 Note Constitution Day and Citizenship Day

COURT DECISIONS

West Virginia State Board of Education et al v. Barnette et al, 319 U.S. 624 (1943)

Management Resource: (See next page)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Constitution Day: New Mandate for Districts Receiving Federal Funds, CSBA Advisory, August 2005

FEDERAL REGISTER

70 Fed. Reg. 29727 Constitution Day and Citizenship Day (2005)

WEB SITES

CSBA: http://www.csba.org

California Department of Education, History/Social Science Instructional

Materials: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/hs/im

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