

Policy © 5-201 Patriotic Exercises and Observance Days

U.S. Flag Display

The District shall display a United States flag in each classroom and on or near the outside of the school building during school hours and at such other times as school authorities direct. The flags must be manufactured in the United States, be at least 2x3 feet, and use appropriate hardware.

The District shall set aside a specific time each day for students who wish to recite the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights

For grades seven (7) through twelve (12), the District shall place a legible copy of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights adjacent to each classroom flag. The documents must be manufactured in the United States.

Period of Silence

A period of silence shall be observed at the beginning of the day. The teacher in charge of the room shall announce that a period of silence for at least one minute but not more than two minutes will be observed. During that time, no activities shall take place and silence shall be maintained.

Declaration of Independence

Each student in grades four (4) through six (6) shall recite the following passage from the Declaration of Independence at the commencement of the first class of the school day:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

Should a parent/legal guardian of a student object to the recitation of the passage set forth above, the student shall not be required to participate.

Observance Days

1. 9/11 Education Day

September 11th of each year shall be observed as 9/11 Education Day. On 9/11 Education Day, the District shall provide age-appropriate instruction for grades seven (7) through twelve (12) on the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

2. Sandra Day O'Connor Civics Celebration Day

September 25th of each year shall be observed as Sandra Day O'Connor Civics Celebration Day. On Sandra Day O'Connor Civics Celebration Day, each school shall dedicate the majority of the school day to civics education.

If 9/11 Education Day or Sandra Day O'Connor Civics Celebration Day falls on a day when the District is not in session, the observance shall take place on the preceding or following school day.

The Superintendent is directed to emphasize the use of the resources developed by the State Board of Education relating to civics education that aligns to the academic standards in social studies pursuant to [A.R.S. § 15-701](#) and A.R.S. § 15-701.01.

Patriotic Youth Groups

Building principals may permit patriotic youth groups to address students and distribute materials during the first quarter of the academic school year in accordance with the provisions of A.R.S. § 15-120.08.

Adopted:

Legal Authority:

A.R.S. § 15-120.08

[A.R.S. § 15-203](#)

[A.R.S. § 15-506](#)

[A.R.S. § 15-701](#)

[A.R.S. § 15-701.01](#)

[A.R.S. § 15-710.02](#)

[Ariz. Admin. Code R7-2-305](#)