BP 6115 CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES

PATRIOTIC EXERCISES

Note: By state law, the Pledge of Allegiance must be recited ~~daily.~~regularly AS 14.03.130. A person/student is permitted to recite the salute to the flag or to maintain a respectful silence.

The School Board encourages activities that instill pride in our country, state, borough, town or village. The Pledge of Allegiance shall be recited or patriotic exercises conducted ~~each day~~ regularly. The Board encourages students and staff to recite the Pledge of Allegiance in their indigenous language if they desire.

The District respects the legal right of individuals not to participate in the salute to the flag for personal reasons. An individual not participating in the salute to the flag must maintain a respectful silence.

The School Board recognizes the potential importance and relevance of local ceremonies in addition to the Pledge of Allegiance. With Board approval, and provided that such ceremonies do not contravene state or federal law, the Board encourages such local ceremonies as a way of celebrating and recognizing place and local culture as an important part of the educational day.

(cf. 5145.2 – Freedom of Speech/Expression)

(cf. 6141.2 – Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs)

(cf. 6141.3 – Multicultural Education)

SPECIAL DAYS AND EVENTS

District schools shall commemorate special days, events in accordance with law. Schools are encouraged to recognize days and events of local historical and cultural importance.

District schools shall be closed in observance of Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and the day after, Christmas Day, New-Year's Day, Memorial Day, and the Fourth of July.

Holidays which fall on a Sunday shall be observed the following Monday. Holidays that fall on a Saturday shall be observed on the preceding Friday.

Furthermore, the ~~(blank)~~Petersburg School District Board of Education ~~specifically~~ recognizes the cultural and civic importance of prominent ~~the following~~ people or events and encourages school leaders and students to incorporate celebrations or recognition within the school's activities and curriculum. ~~These people or events for the (blank) School District to recognize are (add people or events as appropriate, i.e. Elizabeth Peratrovich Day, Native American Month, etc.).~~

(cf. 6111 – School Calendar)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.03.050 – School Holidays

14.03.130 – Display of Flag and Pledge of Allegiance

41.15.900 – Observance of Arbor Day

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

Banks v. Board of Public Instruction, 314 F. Supp. 285

Hanover v. Northrup, 325 F Supp. 170

Revised 3/2019

Approved: 11/2019, 11/2026

ADOPTED: June 21, 2005

Petersburg City School District