

CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES

Patriotic Exercises

Note: By state law, the Pledge of Allegiance must be recited daily. 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 may be recited or patriotic exercises conducted each day. 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.

~~Recognizing the need to comply with state law AS 14.03.130, the Board requires that the Pledge of Allegiance be recited daily in the classroom. Persons not wishing to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag must maintain a respectful silence.~~

Instruction shall be provided to the students regarding the positive manifestation of patriotism, loyalty and pledging allegiance and what that means.

(cf. 6141.6 - Multicultural Education)

(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)

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

Special Days and Events

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

Note: AS 14.03.050 allows the Board to designate additional holidays. The following reflects school holidays designated by AS 14.030.050 and may be expanded as deemed appropriate.

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 which fall on a Saturday shall be observed the preceding Friday.

CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES

Furthermore, the School Board of Education specifically recognizes the cultural and civic importance of 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 Southeast Island School District to recognize are Elizabeth Peratrovich Day, Native American Month, Religious Freedom Day, Education and Sharing Day, Harriet Tubman Day, Loyalty Day, Patriot Day, Citizens' Day, Constitution Week, America Recycles Day, Bill of Rights Day and Veterans' Day.

(cf. 6111 - School Calendar)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.03.050 School holidays

14.03.130 Display of ~~flag~~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)4

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

Hanover v. Northrup, 325 F. Supp. 170

Revised 4/03