

**CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES**

**Patriotic Exercises**

The School Board encourages activities that instill pride in our country. The Pledge of Allegiance may be recited or patriotic exercises conducted.

The district respects the legal right of individuals not to participate in the salute to the flag for personal reasons.

*(cf. 5145.2 - Freedom of Speech/Expression)*  
*(cf. 6141.2 - Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs)*  
*(cf. 6141.6 - Multicultural Education)*

**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 significance.

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.

*(cf. 6111 - School Calendar)*

**Lowering of the Flag**

The School District shall honor the proclamations of the elected Governor or President of the United States to fly the flag at half-mast for appropriate events. Duration shall adhere to the proclamation.

*Legal Reference:*

ALASKA STATUTES  
*14.03.050 School holidays*  
*14.03.130 Display of flag*  
*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