

District Policy

8820 - OPENING EXERCISES/CEREMONIES

Section: Operations

Date Created: June 2022

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The Board of Education requires the students in each school in the school district to salute the United States flag and repeat the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-3. The pledge of allegiance shall be rendered with the right hand over the heart, except that students who have a conscientious objection against such pledge or salute, or are children of accredited representatives of foreign governments to whom the United States government extends diplomatic immunity, shall not be required to render such salute and pledge or stand during such pledge or salute, but shall be required to show full respect to the flag while the pledge is being given.

The Board of Education authorizes observance of Commodore John Barry Day as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:36-10 through 12 and appropriate exercises for the development of a higher spirit of patriotism on the last day of school preceding Washington's Birthday (also celebrated as President's Day), Decoration of Memorial Day, Columbus Day, and Veterans Day as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:36-13. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-13.1, the district may conduct a course of exercises or instruction in accordance with the Core Curriculum Content Standards to observe holidays, including, but not limited to **the chart below**, ~~Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday, Lincoln's Birthday, Thanksgiving Day, Arbor Day, and other holidays as determined by the Board of Education.~~

Statutory	Other Holidays as determined by BOE
<p>Observances (N.J.S.A. 18A:36-10 through 12) for development of higher spirit of patriotism:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commodore John Barry Day• President's Day (Washington & Lincoln's Bdays)• Memorial Day• Columbus Day• Veteran's Day <p>Exercises/ Instruction referenced for N.J.S.A. (18A:36-13.1):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MLK Jr.'s Bday• Lincoln's Bday• Thanksgiving Day• Arbor Day• Flag Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Juneteenth• September 11th• Earth Day• Indigenous People's Day• Constitution & Citizenship Day

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-3; 18A:36-10; 18A:36-11; 18A:36-12; 18A:36-13; 18A:36-13.1

Adopted: 07 June 2022

Old NJSBA policy 6115	New SE policy 8820	Other Holidays as determined by BOE (for consideration in policy)
<p>Appropriate recognition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MLK Jr.'s Bday ● Lincoln's Bday ● Washington's Bday ● Memorial Day ● Constitution & Citizenship Day ● Columbus Day ● Veterans' Day ● Thanksgiving Day ● Flag Day ● Arbor Day ● Commodore John Barry Day 	<p>Observances (N.J.S.A. 18A:36-10 through 12) for development of higher spirit of patriotism:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Commodore John Barry Day ● President's Day (Washington & Lincoln's Bdays) ● Memorial Day ● Columbus Day ● Veteran's Day <p>Exercises/ Instruction referenced for N.J.S.A. (18A:36-13.1):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MLK Jr.'s Bday ● Lincoln's Bday ● Thanksgiving Day ● Arbor Day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Juneteenth ● September 11th ● Earth Day ● Indigenous People's Day