

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

PATRIOTIC EXERCISES

DISPLAY OF FLAG

A. Purpose of Policy

To provide guidelines for the display of the United States Flag.

B. Display of Flag

The flag of the United States and the flag of California shall be displayed during school days at the entrance or on the grounds of every school. The National flag shall be placed in the position of first honor. (Government Code sections 431,436; 36 U.S.C. 174.)

C. Position and Manner of Display

The flag is normally displayed from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flag staffs. It may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during hours of darkness.

The flag should not be displayed on days in inclement weather, except when an all weather flag is used. No disrespect should be shown to the flag of the United States of America.

1. The flag should not be displayed with the union down, except as a signal of distress.
2. The flag should not touch anything beneath it.
3. The flag should not be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.
4. The flag should not be used as a drapery, festooned, drawn back or in folds, but always allowed to fall free.
5. The flag should not be fastened, displayed, used or stored in such a manner as will permit it to be easily torn, soiled or damaged.
6. The flag should not be used as covering for a ceiling.
7. The flag should not have placed on it, nor on any part of it, nor attached to, any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture or drawing of any nature.

8. The flag should not be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding or carrying or delivering anything.
9. The flag should not be used for advertising purposes.
10. When the flag is in a condition no longer fitting for display, it should be destroyed in a dignified manner.
11. The flag of the State of California should be accorded the same respect as the flag of the United States, giving priority to placement of the flag of the United States.

D. Flying the Flag at Half-Staff

Upon order of the President, the National flag shall be flown at half-staff upon the death of principal figures of the United States Government and the Governor of the State. The flag shall be hoisted to the top of the staff, then lowered to half-mast. It should be hoisted to the top again before being lowered for the night. (36 U.S.C. 175)

The National flag shall fly at half-staff on the following occasions: (4 USC 7):

1. 30 days from death of the President or a former President
2. 10 days from the death of the Vice President, the Chief Justice or a Retired Chief Justice, or the Speaker of the House of Representatives
3. From the day of death until internment of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, a secretary of executive or military department, former Vice President, or the Governor of a state
4. The day of death and the following day for a Member of Congress
5. On Memorial Day, until noon only
6. On Peace Officers Memorial Day (May 15), unless it falls on Armed Forces Day
7. Upon a proclamation from the Governor in the event of the death of a present or former official of the state government or a member of the Armed Forces from the State who has died while serving on active duty.
8. Other occasions by order of the President and in accordance with presidential instructions or orders

E. Patriotic Exercises

Each school shall conduct patriotic exercises daily. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag will fulfill this requirement.

Legal Reference: Education Code 52720, 52730 Government Code: 431, 436; 4 USC 6 and 4 USC 7

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