

Regulation 6115 Ceremonies and Observances

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 10/1994

Last Revised Date: 08/28/2024

Holidays

District schools shall be closed on the following holidays: (Education Code 37220)

New Year's Day	January 1
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Third Monday in January or the Monday or Friday of the week in which January 15 occurs
Lincoln Day	The Monday or Friday of the week in which February 12 occurs
Washington Day	Third Monday in February
Memorial Day	Last Monday in May
Juneteenth National Independence Day	June 19
Independence Day	July 4
Labor Day	First Monday in September
Veterans Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	The Thursday in November designated by the President
Christmas Day	December 25

In addition, schools shall be closed on: (Education Code 37220)

1. Any day appointed by the Governor as a holiday or as a special or limited holiday on which the Governor provides that schools shall close
2. Any day appointed by the President as a holiday, including by executive order or by signing into law legislation that creates a nationwide federal holiday
3. Any other day designated as a holiday by the Governing Board and/or negotiated with employee organizations

Holidays which fall on a Sunday shall be observed the following Monday. Holidays which fall on a Saturday shall be observed the preceding Friday. If any of the above holidays occur under federal law on a date different from that indicated above, the Board may close the schools on the date recognized by federal law instead of on the date above. (Education Code 37220)

Commemorative Exercises

District schools shall hold exercises in accordance with law to commemorate the following special days: (Education Code 37220, 37221, 45460, 49110.5)

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	The Friday before the day schools are closed for this holiday
Abraham Lincoln's Birthday	The school day before the day schools are closed for this holiday
Susan B. Anthony Day	February 15
George Washington's Birthday	The Friday preceding the third Monday in February
Black American Day	March 5 Conservation, Bird, and Arbor Day March 7
Workplace Readiness Week	The week that includes April 28
Classified Employee Week	Third week in May
U.S. Constitution and Citizenship Day	On or near September 17

Commemorative exercises shall be integrated into the regular educational program as required by law.

Patriotic Exercises

Each school shall conduct patriotic exercises daily, which may include the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States and/or instruction that promotes understanding of the concepts of "pledge," "allegiance," "republic," and "indivisible" and understanding of the importance of the pledge as an expression of patriotism, love of country, and pride in the United States. (Education Code 52720, 52730)

At elementary schools, such exercises shall be conducted at the beginning of each school day. (Education Code 52720)

At secondary schools, such exercises shall be conducted during the homeroom period. A student may choose not to participate in the flag salute or Pledge of Allegiance for personal reasons.

Display of Flag

The flag of the United States and the flag of California shall be displayed during business hours at the entrance or on the grounds of every district school and on or near the district office. At all times, the national flag shall be placed in the position of first honor. (Government Code 431, 436; 4 USC 6)

When displayed on a building or on a flagstaff in the open, the national flag shall be displayed only from sunrise to sunset unless properly illuminated during the hours of darkness. The flag should not be displayed during inclement weather unless an all-weather flag is used. (4 USC 6)

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

1. For 30 days from the death of the President or a former President
2. For 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 interment of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, a secretary of an executive or military department, former Vice President, or the Governor of a state
4. On 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, a member of the Armed Forces from the state who has died while serving on active duty, or the death of a first responder working in the state who dies while serving in the line of duty
8. On other occasions by order of the President and in accordance with presidential instructions or orders

10/1994
02/1999
08/11/1999
03/08/2000
11/2008
04/08/2009
07/15/2009
05/2011
08/28/2024

Policy Reference Disclaimer:

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
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Ed. Code 37220-37222.21
Ed. Code 44015.1
Ed. Code 45203
Ed. Code 45460
Ed. Code 49110.5
Ed. Code 52720-52730
Gov. Code 3540-3549.3
Gov. Code 430-439

Federal

36 USC 106
4 USC 6
4 USC 7

Management Resources

Court Decision

Court Decision

Website

Website

Website

Cross References

Code

1330
1330
4156.2
4256.2
4356.2
5113.2
5113.2
6111
6117
6141.2
6141.2
6142.3
6142.4
6142.94
6143
6143
6144
6145.8
6175
6175
6178.1
6178.1

[Holidays and commemorative events](#)

[Week of the School Administrator](#)

[Paid holidays](#)

[Classified School Employee Week](#)

Workplace Readiness Week

[Patriotic exercises and instruction](#)

[Public education employer-employee relations](#)

[Display of flags](#)

Description

Constitution Day and Citizenship Day

Time and occasion for display of flag

Position and manner of display of flag

Description

Newdow v. Rio Linda Union School District (9th Cir. 2010)
597 F.3d 1007

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

[CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services](#)

[California Department of Education, History/Social Science](#)

[Instructional Materials](#)

[CSBA](#)

Description

[Use Of School Facilities](#)

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