

## **RSU #63**

- a. NEPN/NSBA Code:** **IMDB**
- b. Title:** **Flag Displays**
- c. Author:**
- d. Replaces Policy:**
- e. Date Approved:** **04/03/2023 RSU #63**
- f. Previously Approved:** **02/27/2017**
- g. Policy Expiration:** **Review as Needed**
- h. Responsible for Review:** **Superintendent & Policy Committee**
- i. Date Reviewed:** **03/13/2023 Superintendent**  
**03/13/2023 Policy Committee**
- j. References:** **20-A MRSA Chaps. 1055(6), 4805**

### **k. Narrative:**

The RSU #63 Board of Directors (the Board) intends due respect be given to our national and state flags. In accordance with Maine state law, the United States and Maine flags will be displayed from RSU #63 (the District) school buildings every school day and on appropriate occasions. Further, the United States flag is to be displayed in every RSU #63 classroom for the pledge of allegiance.

- I.** The Superintendent or their designee is responsible for furnishing each school and facility accordingly, and to recommend to the Board an annual expenditure amount necessary to provide sufficient flags and flagstaffs. This amount is to be included in the annual Board-approved RSU #63 budget.
- II.** It will be the duty of teaching personnel to educate students, by suitable references and observances:
  - A.** the significance of the United States flag,
  - B.** the cost, object and principles of our government, and the inestimable sacrifices made by the founders of our nation,
  - C.** the important contribution made by all who have served in the armed services of our country since its inception, and
  - D.** to love, honor, and respect the flag of our country.
- III.** All RSU #63 support staff will demonstrate by both words and actions their support of the teaching provided students as reflected in Section II above.
- IV.** The Pledge of Allegiance should be rendered by standing at attention, facing the flag, and saluting the same when the National Anthem is played. Citizens not in uniform salute by placing their right hand over the heart and those with a head cover should remove it and hold it in the right hand over the heart unless contrary to their religious belief.

- V.** The national flag will be flown at half-staff in mourning for designated, principal government leaders and upon presidential or gubernatorial order. The process of displaying the national flag at half-staff is as follows:
  - A.** It must be first raised to full staff and then lowered to half-staff.
  - B.** When the period of mourning is over, or at the time of taking the flag down, the flag must be raised to full staff and then lowered to be removed.
- VI.** No other flag representing a state or organization may be flown higher than the national flag.
- VII.** The flag should never touch the ground or any other object, but should be received by waiting hands and arms when taking it down.
- VIII.** No other flags will be on display or remain on display unless it is pertinent to the current lesson and used for illustration.