LENAPE TECHNICAL SCHOOL

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: OPENING EXERCISES/ MOMENT OF SILENCE/FLAG DISPLAYS

ADOPTED: May 15, 2008

REVISED: April 21, 2016; December 19, 2024

807. OPENING EXERCISES/MOMENT OF SILENCE/FLAG DISPLAYS

Purpose

The Joint Operating Committee adopts this policy to ensure that the school complies with state and federal laws concerning flag displays**,** opening exercises **and the moment of silence on the anniversary of September 11,** while respecting the rights of individuals.

Authority

A United States flag shall be displayed in classrooms and on or near the school building during school hours, inclement weather and at other times determined by the Joint Operating Committee.[1]

The school shall provide opening exercises that include a salute to the flag and/or recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance or the National Anthem.[2]

Students may decline to recite the Pledge of Allegiance or National Anthem and to salute the flag on the basis of personal belief or religious conviction. Students who choose to refrain from such participation shall respect the rights and interests of classmates who do participate.[1][2]

The Joint Operating Committee may direct professional employees to conduct a brief period of silent prayer or meditation as part of daily opening exercises. Silent prayer or meditation shall not be conducted as a religious service or exercise.[3]

The Joint Operating Committee directs the school to annually provide, during instructional hours, a moment of silence for students and staff to observe the anniversary of September 11, 2001.[4]

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Legal References

1. 24 P.S. 771
2. 22 PA Code 12.10
3. 24 P.S. 1516.1
4. 24 P.S. 1555