



CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN

Board Policy 6115.3 – Flag (Display)

Approved on May 6, 2024, Revised April 7, 2025

It is the policy of the Board of Education (Board) to correctly honor the flags of the United States, the State of Connecticut, and the City of New Britain, as well as Board-approved flags representing a school operated by the Board, and ensure a standard of flag display on District outdoor flagpoles. The American flag should always be present when others are flying. If a school building has more than two flagpoles, it should be standard practice to regularly fly the City flag or an approved school flag on the third flagpole. *

The Board shall comply with national and state protocols for flag display and etiquette.

It is the policy of the Board that District flag poles are a forum of government speech, thereby maintaining the distinction between government speech and private speech by students and community members.

All flag requests that meet the criteria will be considered for approval by the Superintendent (or their designee). All requests whether accepted or denied must then be reported to the Board at the next regular meeting. The criteria outlined in this policy establish minimum standards for a flag request to be considered.

The Superintendent (or their designee) will only consider requests from District students, school groups, or staff when there is sufficient reason to believe that such messaging via the flag will promote student well-being. Requests will only be considered for individual schools and not District-wide. Any approved flag requests must also comply with existing District policies.

- Requests must be made no later than three (3) weeks before the requested flag-raising date.
- Requests to fly a flag will be submitted to the Superintendent (or their designee) in writing.
- Written requests must include the names of the individual(s) making the request, affiliation with the school, a proposed time frame for raising and flying the flag, and rationale explaining how the request aligns with the District's vision, goals, and well-being of our students and staff. Flags may be flown for as little as one day to a maximum time period of 20 school days. The superintendent may reduce the requested time period to as little as five school days for the purpose of honoring other requests to fly flags on overlapping time periods.
- If approved, the requestor is responsible for delivering a flag that is in good condition and of appropriate size at least one week prior to the first requested day and for retrieving the flag from the school once it has been lowered for the final time. The dimensions of the flag should be 3 feet in width by 5 feet in length.
- The Board of Education will not fly flags considered to be inappropriate, offensive, or discriminatory.

**Effective July 1, 2025*