

LEBANON SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY: 807

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: OPENING EXERCISES/FLAG DISPLAYS

ADOPTED: October 21, 1996

LAST REVISED: March 16, 2020

807. OPENING EXERCISES/FLAG DISPLAYS

Purpose

This Board adopts this policy to ensure that all district schools comply with state and federal laws concerning flag displays and opening exercises while respecting the rights of individuals.

Authority

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

District schools 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.³

The Board 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.⁴

¹ 24 P.S. 771.

² 24 P.S. 771.

³ 24 P.S. 771; 22 Pa. Code. 12.10.

⁴ 24 P.S. 1516.1.