



Santa Ana Unified School District

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION NO: 6115

EFFECTIVE: 05/22/2023

SUBJECT: **Ceremonies and Observances**

CATEGORY: Instruction

RESPONSIBLE OFFICE(S): Educational Services

SCOPE:

District schools shall be closed in observance of the following holidays:

New Year's Day...January 1

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day...Third Monday in January or the King, Jr. Day, 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...June 19

Independence Day...July 4

Labor Day...First Monday in September

Veteran's Day...November 11

Thanksgiving Day...That Thursday in November designated by the President

Christmas Day...December 25 (cf. 6141.2 – Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs)

PROCEDURES AND GENERAL INFORMATION:

In addition, schools shall be closed on any day designated by the Governor or President for a holiday, any special or limited holiday on which the Governor provides that the schools shall close, and any other day designated as a holiday by the Governing Board and/or negotiated with employee organizations. (Education Code 37220)

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 occurs under federal law on a date different from that indicated above, the Governing Board may close the schools on the date recognized by federal law instead of on the date above. (Education Code 37220)

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS:

District Policies and Procedures:



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Commemorative Exercises

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

U.S. Constitution Day...On or near September 17

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

Classified Employee Week...Third Week in May

Commemorative exercises shall be integrated into the regular educational program to the extent feasible.

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



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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 internment of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, a secretary of executive or military department, former Vice President, and 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 or a member of the Armed Forces from the state who has died while serving on active duty
8. On other occasions by order of the President and in accordance with presidential instructions or orders

ADOPTION AND REVISION HISTORY:

Approved: (11-02) Santa Ana, CA