

## 8820 OPENING EXERCISES

The Board of Education requires the students in each school in the school district to salute the United States flag and repeat the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-3. The pledge of allegiance shall be rendered with the right hand over the heart, except that students who have a conscientious objection against such pledge or salute, or are children of accredited representatives of foreign governments to whom the United States government extends diplomatic immunity, shall not be required to render such salute and pledge or stand during such pledge or salute, but shall be required to show full respect to the flag while the pledge is being given.

The only flags that are permitted to be displayed in or on school district buildings and grounds or in the school building and other buildings owned by the Board of Education or raised on school district owned flag poles on school district owned property or buildings shall be the flag of the United States and the flag of the State of New Jersey.

The Board of Education authorizes observance of Commodore John Barry Day as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:36-10 through 12 and appropriate exercises for the development of a higher spirit of patriotism on the last day of school preceding Washington's Birthday (also celebrated as President's Day), Decoration of Memorial Day, Columbus Day, and Veterans Day as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:36-13. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-13.1, the district may conduct a course of exercises or instruction in accordance with the Core Curriculum Content Standards to observe holidays, including, but not limited to, Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday, Lincoln's Birthday, Thanksgiving Day, Arbor Day, and other holidays as determined by the Board of Education.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-3; 18A:36-10; 18A:36-11;  
18A:36-12; 18A:36-13; 18A:36-13.1

Adopted: 26 July 1999  
Revised: 17 December 2024

