

**Regulation 6115: Ceremonies And Observances**

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 01/16/2018

Holidays

District schools shall be closed on the following holidays: (Education Code 37220)

New Year's Day January 1

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

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

Independence Day July 4

Labor Day First Monday in September

Veterans Day November 11

Thanksgiving Day The Thursday in November designated by the President

Christmas Day December 25

(cf. 6141.2 - Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs)

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 Board of Trustees may close the schools on the date recognized by federal law instead of on the date above. (Education Code 37220)

(cf. 6111 - School Calendar)

Commemorative Exercises

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

U.S. Constitution and Citizenship 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.

(cf. 6142.94 - History-Social Science Instruction)

(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)

## Patriotic Exercises

Each school shall conduct patriotic exercises daily. These patriotic exercises shall consist of the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance and may also include 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. Individuals may choose not to participate in the flag salute for personal reasons. Students not reciting the Pledge of Allegiance shall maintain a respectful silence

## Display of Flag

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 interment of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, a secretary of an executive or military department, former Vice President, or 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

No flag other than the United States of America and State of California may be displayed on school grounds, including classrooms, unless it is a country, state, or United States military flag used solely for educational purposes within the adopted curriculum. Any other flag must be approved by the Superintendent or designee prior to displaying if, and only if, it is used for educational purposes and only during the related instructional period

---

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

## State References

Ed. Code 37220-37222.21

Ed. Code 44015.1

Ed. Code 45203

## Description

Holidays and commemorative events -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/un8u2pcslshG9Zi0Cm16nl37Q==>

Week of the School Administrator -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/hJdZ1JAbIUGxAslsh0vA89TvA==>

Paid holidays -

Ed. Code 45460	<a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/RTKedYdnkvl6ya0IBRM6xA==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/RTKedYdnkvl6ya0IBRM6xA==</a> Classified School Employee Week - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/PI7b4B21KoNcN9IFhNO9eQ==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/PI7b4B21KoNcN9IFhNO9eQ==</a>
Ed. Code 52720-52730	Patriotic exercises and instruction - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UYtCGykK0sJxAXRmR0G6iw==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UYtCGykK0sJxAXRmR0G6iw==</a>
Gov. Code 3540-3549.3	Public education employer-employee relations - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/v7Ve6br1aONvKXSwan7ug==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/v7Ve6br1aONvKXSwan7ug==</a>
Gov. Code 430-439	Display of flags - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UplusUfFckMc45J3KT03t8RnA==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UplusUfFckMc45J3KT03t8RnA==</a>

**Federal References**

36 USC 106	Constitution Day and Citizenship Day
4 USC 6	Time and occasion for display of flag
4 USC 7	Position and manner of display of flag

**Description**

**Management Resources References**

Court Decision	Newdow v. Rio Linda Union School District (9th Cir. 2010) 597 F.3d 1007
Court Decision	West Virginia State Board of Education et al. v. Barnette et al. (1943) 319 U.S. 624

**Description**

[Court Decision](#) [Johnson v. Poway Unified School Dist. \(2011\) 658 F.3d 954](#)

[Court Decision](#) [Khademi v. South Orange Community College Dist. \(2002\) 194 F.Supp.2d 1011](#)

Website <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/UdykszdmPETuDsIshXk6R5akQ==>  
CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services -

Website <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/mmKB0bZ6paV8oCNRgx6UVw==>  
California Department of Education, History/Social Science Instructional Materials -

Website <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/W3QxkK2FPsDsQBnMIENxGg==>  
CSBA -

**Cross References**

1330	Use Of School Facilities - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/MgsX99slsh5r8bnSxToBOe8GA==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/MgsX99slsh5r8bnSxToBOe8GA==</a>
1330	Use Of School Facilities - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/BgchG94BAD3X5bdolAnngQ==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/BgchG94BAD3X5bdolAnngQ==</a>
1330-E PDF(1)	Use Of School Facilities - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/NoslshU0pFztplus9428sq4TWplusdg==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/NoslshU0pFztplus9428sq4TWplusdg==</a>
4156.2	Awards And Recognition - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/hFRMIpds4ubT1MZKMBplusBQw==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/hFRMIpds4ubT1MZKMBplusBQw==</a>
4256.2	Awards And Recognition - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Gnks2UVoZHplusfCyax6QNmTA==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/Gnks2UVoZHplusfCyax6QNmTA==</a>
4356.2	Awards And Recognition - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/XeNTQIbsr0gVOXvplusszLiKQ==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/XeNTQIbsr0gVOXvplusszLiKQ==</a>
6111	School Calendar - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/q8g63AEcTabCe9LLKXhrJw==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/q8g63AEcTabCe9LLKXhrJw==</a>
6141.2	Recognition Of Religious Beliefs And Customs - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/o7QDz2MjVzm8tFUaGk9tIA==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/o7QDz2MjVzm8tFUaGk9tIA==</a>
6141.2	Recognition Of Religious Beliefs And Customs - <a href="https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/ipTtoEVdm9nTRsiPb1F9AA==">https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/ipTtoEVdm9nTRsiPb1F9AA==</a>
6142.94	History-Social Science Instruction -

6145.8

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/G45POB2z5CgbQ874x9D7tw==>

Assemblies And Special Events -

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SU/aslshsYYE8MKplusjql0qVyp0btA==>