

## 8820 OPENING EXERCISES/CEREMONIES

The Board of Education requires ~~that~~ 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 ~~be conducted during each day's opening exercises in each school classroom in accordance with law~~ **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** A students who ~~have a~~ **has** 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 ~~objections that interfere with his/her full participation in the salute to the flag and the pledge of allegiance shall be exempted from the exercise but shall be required to maintain a respectful attitude throughout the ceremony.~~

~~The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of any student who refuses to salute the flag shall be so informed by the Building Principal, and any such parent(s) or legal guardian(s) or the adult student shall be required to furnish a written statement of the student's conscientious objection.~~

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: 17 July 2015

