

**CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES****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)*

*(cf. 6111 - School Calendar)*

**Commemorative Exercises**

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

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)*

**CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES** (continued)

**Patriotic Exercises**

Each school shall conduct patriotic exercises daily. These patriotic exercises shall consist of inviting students to recite 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 each day.

Individuals may choose not to participate in the flag salute for personal reasons.

**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 occasions in accordance with United States Code Title 4. (4 USC 7)