

Policy #: 531
Title: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Date of Initial Approval: 01/22/2004
Revision/Re-authorization Dates: 01/23/2014; 11/16/2017
Reviewers: MSAB Director; MSAD Director; MSA Superintendent

I. PURPOSE

The Board of the Minnesota State Academies recognizes the need to provide instruction in the proper etiquette, display, and respect of the United States Flag. The purpose of this policy is to provide for recitation of the pledge of allegiance and instruction in school to help further that end.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Students attending the Minnesota State Academies shall recite or sign the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America one or more times each week. The recitation or signing will be conducted:

- A. By each individual classroom teacher or the teacher's surrogate; or
- B. Over a school intercom or video-distribution system by a person designated by the school principal or other person having administrative control over the school.

III. EXCEPTIONS

Any student or staff may decline to participate in recitation or signing of the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Students and staff must respect the choice of others to not recite or sign the pledge.

IV. INSTRUCTION

Students will be instructed in the proper etiquette toward, correct display of, and respect for the flag and in patriotic exercises

Legal References:

- Minn. Stat. § 121A.11, Subd. 3 (Pledge of Allegiance)
- Minn. Stat. § 121A.11, Subd. 4 (Instruction)

[Note: Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance by students and instruction of students as provided in this policy are required by statute. Also, the statement in Part III., above, must be included in the student handbook or a policy guide. A local school board or a charter school board of directors may waive these statutory requirements by a majority vote taken annually. If the local school board or charter school board of directors waives the requirement to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, it may adopt a district or school policy regarding the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.]