

## **531 THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The School Board recognizes the need to display an appropriate United States flag and to provide instruction to students in the proper etiquette, display, and respect of the flag. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for the instructional staff and administration in conducting such instruction and to waive the requirement to recite the pledge during class.

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

Students in this school district are either in attendance on a part-time basis or for a full school day.

- A. In the case of part-time students, the pledge policy and the actual recitation of the pledge is within the purview of the resident school district where the students spend the majority of their instructional day. Therefore, the provisions of M.S. 121A.11 have already been satisfied.
- B. In the case of full-time students; the majority of these students are enrolled in either an alternative educational program or are students with disabilities including serious emotional or behavioral disabilities. In either case, it is the judgment of the School Board that regular recitation of the pledge of allegiance has the high probability of creating a serious disruption of the school day and could result in emotional trauma for some students.
- C. Therefore, it is the policy of this district that the requirement to recite the Pledge of Allegiance be waived.

### **III. INSTRUCTION**

Notwithstanding the waiver under section II C of this policy, the Board expects all appropriate teaching staff to provide instruction in the proper respect for the flag and etiquette in its display and use.

***Legal References:*** Minn. Stat. § 121A.11, subd. 3 (Pledge of Allegiance)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.11, subd. 4 (Instruction)