

| NEPN/NSBA Code: IMDA
| M.S.A.D. #12 POLICY
| PATRIOTIC EXERCISES

| Maine State law requires display of and instruction about the American flag in the classrooms
| of our schools.

| To foster appreciation and respect for our nation and its symbol, the School Board requires
| that on each morning and at other appropriate occasions, the Pledge of Allegiance is to be
| given by all pupils and staff. It is the responsibility of the Superintendent through the
| Principal to ensure that this policy is adhered to, but he/she may determine the manner in
| which it will be done, such as through an intercom or by the individual classroom teacher.

| Pupils who object to participating in the flag salute as a matter of conscience shall be
| excused from doing so upon submission of a request in writing and signed by a parent/
| guardian, which provides evidence of sincere conviction. Such excuse shall not intimidate nor
| embarrass the student. An excused student may stand, remain seated or arrangements can be
| made so that he/she may leave the room during the Pledge. When in the presence of staff and
| students conducting a salute, an excused student shall have appropriate respect for the
| others' participation.

| A teacher may also be so excused, but is not released from the responsibility of regular
| supervisory duty of covering a classroom of students, nor of appropriate participation in
| teaching the curriculum including patriotic songs and holiday-based instructional activities.

| Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA §§ 1055, 4805

| Cross Reference: IMDB - Flag Displays

| Adopted: October 08, 2002