

PATRIOTIC EXERCISES

Code **IMDA**

Patriot Day

All schools in the district will observe Patriot Day on September 11th in remembrance of the victims of the tragic events of September 11, 2001.

Constitution and Citizenship Day

In accordance with federal law, the district will offer educational opportunities each year on September 17th to commemorate the September 17, 1787, signing of the United States Constitution (if this date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, Constitution Day will be held during the preceding or following week). The superintendent will establish guidelines ensuring that the district observes Constitution Day in a manner befitting the importance of the event in the history of the United States.

Veterans Day

All schools in the district will provide one hour of class time or assembly time to study the United States Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. This hour of study will be on November 11th (Veterans Day) or on the school day immediately preceding November 11th if schools are closed on Veterans Day.

Schools may allow students to attend activities to honor veterans on this day as part of the instructional day. Parents/legal guardians may request in writing that their child be excused from participation in such activities.

Patriotism Week

All schools in the district during the week of November 11th will observe Patriotism Week to recognize the important contributions made by our military veterans, to honor their sacrifices, and to memorialize those who lost their lives in military service.

Youth Patriotic Societies

According to Section 59-1-465 of South Carolina Law, "youth patriotic society" is defined as a youth membership organization with an educational purpose aligned with state standards located in South Carolina and listed herein, intended to promote patriotism and kindred virtues among elementary, middle, and high school students:

- (a) Big Brothers-Big Sisters of America;
- (b) Boy Scouts of America;
- (c) Boys and Girls Clubs of America
- (d) Future Farmers of America
- (e) Girl Scouts of the United States of America.

The principal of each elementary, middle, and high school will allow representatives of youth patriotic societies the opportunity to speak with students during the week of Patriot Day, Constitution Day, or Patriotism Week to inform students of how their involvement in a youth patriotic society might further their educational interests and civic involvement to improve their school schools, community, and themselves.

A youth patriotic society will be allowed to speak during the school day for at least 10 minutes provided that they have given 30 days written or verbal notice to the school's principal of their intent to address students. Upon receiving notice, the principal shall provide verbal or written approval indicating the date and time for the society to address students, and the location where the address will occur.

Adopted ^

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Legal References:

- A. United States Code of Laws, as amended:
 - 1. Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, 36 U.S.C.A. Section 106.
- B. S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:
 - 1. Section 53-3-150- Patriot Day, Constitution Day, and Patriotism Week observations.
 - 2. Section 53-3-160- Patriot Day designated as a State Day of Remembrance.
 - 3. Section 59-1-465- Youth patriotic societies; public school event addresses.