

CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES

Holidays

District schools shall be closed in observance of the following holidays:

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

Veteran's 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)

In addition, schools shall be closed on any day designated by the Governor or President for a holiday, any special or limited holiday on which the Governor provides that the schools shall close, and any other day designated as a holiday by the Governing Board and/or negotiated with employee organizations. (Education Code 37220)

Holidays which fall on a Sunday shall be observed the following Monday. Holidays which fall on a Saturday shall be observed the preceding Friday. If any of the above holidays occurs under federal law on a date different from that indicated above, the Board may close the schools on the date recognized by federal law instead of on the date above. (Education Code 37220)

(cf. 6111 - School Calendar)

Commemorative Exercises

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

Instruction

AR 6115(b)

CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES

U.S. Constitution and Citizenship Day	On or near September 17
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Day	The Friday before the day schools are closed for this holiday
Abraham Lincoln's Birthday	The school day before the day schools are closed for this holiday
Susan B. Anthony Day	February 15
George Washington's Birthday	The Friday preceding the third Monday in February
Black American Day	March 5
Conservation, Bird and Arbor Day	March 7
Cesar Chavez Day	March 31
Day of the Teacher	Second Wednesday in May
Classified Employee Week	Third Week in May

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)

Patriotic Exercises

Each school shall conduct patriotic exercises daily. At elementary schools, such exercises shall be conducted at the beginning of each school day. At secondary schools, such exercises shall be conducted during the homeroom period. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag will fulfill this requirement and/or 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)

A student may choose not to participate in the flag salute or Pledge of Allegiance for personal reasons.

**Display of Flag
Instruction**

AR 6115(c)

CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES

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 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 the following occasions: (4 USC 7)

1. For 30 days from the death of the President or a former President
2. For 10 days from the death of the Vice President, the Chief Justice or a retired Chief Justice, or the Speaker of the House of Representatives
3. From the day of death until internment of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, a secretary of executive or legislative department, or a member of Congress
4. On the day of death and the following day for a Member of Congress
5. On Memorial Day, until noon only
6. On Peace Officers Memorial Day (May 15), unless it falls on Armed Forces Day
7. Upon a proclamation from the Governor in the event of the death of a present or former official of the state
8. On other occasions by order of the President and in accordance with presidential instructions or orders

Regulation Approved: 08/14/2020

ORCUTT UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
Orcutt, California