

# **I-19 SCHOOL CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES**

## **Flag Display:**

The Board, in compliance with state law, requires that all schools display both the flags of the United States and the State of Alabama at some suitable place each day school is in session.

## **Pledge of Allegiance:**

All students must have the opportunity to recite on a voluntary basis the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag each day.

## **Prayer Before Public School Activities:**

The Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled that school sponsored prayer or other religious observances at public school activities such as football games, chapel, basketball games, track meets, school band concerts and similar activities is illegal. The Board, in compliance with Federal law as it applies to the State of Alabama, prohibits school sponsored prayer or other religious observances at school activities.

## **Moment of Quiet Reflection:**

At the opening of school every day in each classroom, the teacher in charge shall conduct a brief period quiet reflection for not more than 60 seconds with participation of every pupil in the classroom. The moment of quiet reflection authorized herein is not intended to be and shall not be conducted as a religious service or exercise, but shall be considered an opportunity for a moment of silent reflection on the anticipated activities of the day.

**ADOPTED: May 11, 2004**

**LEGAL REF: Code of Alabama 16-1-20.4; 16-43-5; Jager V. Douglas County**

**School District 862 F 2d 824**