

POLICY	BOARD OF EDUCATION OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND
FLAG DISPLAY AND SALUTE	POLICY 425
<p>425.1 Display of the American Flag</p> <p>425.2 Salute to the American Flag</p> <p>425.3 American Flag as a Tribute</p> <p>425.4 Maryland State Flag Display and as a Tribute</p>	

Policy Statement: The Board of Education (Board) acknowledges legal and patriotic protocol regarding the display of the flag of the United States of America (American flag) and the Maryland state flag, and acknowledges the rights of individuals regarding flag related activities in schools.

425.1 Display of the American Flag

The American flag shall be displayed at every school building and in each classroom while schools are in session, and where practical, at each school assembly in schools. Where there is only one flag pole, the American flag shall be displayed above state or municipal flags.

425.2 Salute to the American Flag

Each classroom shall have a program at the beginning of each day of classes providing for the salute to the American flag and other patriotic exercises approved by the United States Government.

- a. With the exception of paragraph 'b' below, the Board shall require all students and staff to stand and face the flag and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
- b. Any student or staff member who wishes to be excused from paragraph 'a' above shall be excused.
- c. No student or staff member will be compelled to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance or any patriotic exercise, nor be penalized or embarrassed for such decision.
- d. Students and staff not participating will not interfere with the rights of others who are participating, nor will they be disruptive during the exercise or may be disciplined accordingly.

425.3 American Flag as a Tribute

The American flag may be flown at half-staff upon order of the President of the United States for stipulated periods upon the death of principal figures of the United States Government and the Governor of a state, territory, or possession. Presidents also have ordered the flag to be flown at half-staff upon the death of leading citizens, not covered by law, as a mark of official tribute to their service to the United States.

425.4 Maryland State Flag Display and as a Tribute

Proper display of the Maryland state flag will follow “Protocol for the Maryland State Flag” as outlined by state Executive Order.

If a student or staff member dies, as a tribute the Superintendent may order the state flag be flown for two days at half-staff at the school or office where the person belonged. If one flag is at half-staff, other flags flown with it should be at half-staff.

Legal Reference	§ 7-105 Education Article, <i>Annotated Code of Maryland</i>		
	4 U.S.C. §§ 1-10 (2016)		
	Executive Order 01.01.1990.30 “Protocol for the Maryland State Flag” (Amends COMAR 01.01.1999.05)		
Policy History	Reviewed 2019	Adopted 11/08/06	Revised 11/13/19