

**Policy Committee Meeting**  
Duluth Public Schools, ISD 709  
Agenda  
Thursday, September 9, 2021  
Historic Old Central High School - Board Room, 2nd Floor  
215 N 1st Ave E  
Duluth, MN 55802  
4:30 PM

**1. AGENDA ITEMS**

**2. POLICIES FOR FIRST READING**

**3. POLICIES FOR SECOND READING**

A. MSBA Model Policy 531 - The Pledge of Allegiance

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It is recommended that this policy be approved for the second reading.

Anthony Bonds

**4. POLICIES FOR SUSPENSION**

A. 613 Graduation Requirements

The principals and counselors are in support of continuing to provide a level of grace to our HS students as they return to in person learning. DPS graduation requirements are 1.0 credit above the state minimum. By following the state requirement, we are providing students that may have experienced a hardship with distance learning the opportunity to graduate "on time". We offered this option for our seniors during the 2020-21 school year. We would like to continue for the students that were with us in grades 9-11 for the next three school years.

Jen Larva

**5. REGULATIONS - Informational**

**6. OTHER**

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 531

Orig. 2003

Revised: \_\_\_\_\_

Rev. 2003

## **531 THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

***[Note: Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance by students and instruction of students as provided in this policy are required by statute. Also, the statement in Part III., below, must be included in the student handbook or a policy guide. A local school board or a charter school board of directors may waive these statutory requirements by a majority vote taken annually. If the local school board or charter school board of directors waives the requirement to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, it may adopt a district or school policy regarding the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.]***

### **I. PURPOSE**

The school board recognizes the need to display an appropriate United States flag and to provide instruction to students in the proper etiquette, display, and respect of the flag. The purpose of this policy is to provide for recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and instruction in school to help further that end.

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

Students in this school district shall recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America one or more times each week. The recitation shall be conducted:

- A. By each individual classroom teacher or the teacher's surrogate; or
- B. Over a school intercom system by a person designated by the school principal or other person having administrative control over the school.

### **III. EXCEPTIONS**

Anyone who does not wish to participate in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance for any personal reasons may elect not to do so. Students and school personnel must respect another person's right to make that choice.

### **IV. INSTRUCTION**

Students will be instructed in the proper etiquette toward, correct display of, and respect for the flag, and in patriotic exercises.

**Legal References:** Minn. Stat. § 121A.11, Subd. 3 (Pledge of Allegiance)  
Minn. Stat. § 121A.11, Subd. 4 (Instruction)

**Cross References:**

**First Reading: 08-17-2021**