
Purpose/Background

Rocky View Schools believes that patriotic exercises such as singing of the national anthem and observing Remembrance Day foster pride in Canadian citizenship.

Procedures

1. The Principal is responsible for the design of the patriotic exercises held at the school and approves all matters included in the exercises.
 - 1.1 Patriotic exercises shall not include the recitation of any religious prayer.
 - 1.2 Patriotic exercises may include a “quiet time”.
 - 1.3 A statement advising parents of the practice and the general format of school patriotic exercises is to be included in the School Handbook.
2. Remembrance Day is to be acknowledged and honoured as outlined below:
 - 2.1 Each Principal shall ensure a Remembrance Day Ceremony is conducted. All students shall either attend the ceremony or remain in the school elsewhere.
 - 2.2 Remembrance Day observance will occur on the school day immediately preceding Remembrance Day. At least two (2) minutes of silence from 11:00 a.m. to 11:02 a.m. will be observed in a Remembrance Day ceremony or by another appropriate means.
3. Parents may request to have their child(ren) opt out of patriotic exercises for cultural and/or religious beliefs.
 - 3.1 Students are to be allowed to leave the classroom or to remain silent in the classroom during the patriotic exercise.
 - 3.2 Students are expected to display appropriate behaviour in their alternative activities.

Reference:

- Education Act Sections 16, 18, 32, 33, 53, 53, 197 and 222 ,
- Remembrance Day Act
- Alberta Bill of Rights
- Alberta Human Rights Act
- Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Constitution Act, 1982
- Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Amendment Act
- Alberta Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12