**Endazhi-Nitaawiging
School Board Policies & Procedures Manual
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| 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.]***

# PURPOSE

Due to the complicated and difficult history between the Indigenous people of what now is now considered the United States and the United States government; the Governing Board and the Executive Director of Endazhi-Nitaawiging reserves the right to abstain from participation in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance of the United States flag. Per statue, MN statue Chapter 121A, Sec 121A.11, subdivision 3, part (d), the governing board will take an annual vote on inclusion of this custom during the first school board meeting of each year and based on the outcome of the school board vote, staff of Endazhi-Nitaawiging will not participate nor compel students to do so.

# GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Students of Endazhi-Nitaawiginig may recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the Red Lake Nation one or more times each week, if approved by the governing Board at the first boarding meeting of each school year. If approved, the recitation shall be conducted:

* 1. By each individual classroom teacher or the teacher’s surrogate; or
	2. Over a school intercom system by a person designated by the Executive Director.
	3. Students will not be compelled to recite the pledge of allegiance and may opt out as necessary.

# 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.

# INSTRUCTION

If approved by the governing board at the first school board meeting of each school year, students who elect to not do so 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:

Adopted: July 27th, 2022***