

# EPHRATA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: OPENING EXERCISES/  
FLAG DISPLAYS

ADOPTED: September 26, 2016

REVISED:

807. OPENING EXERCISES/FLAG DISPLAYS	
1. Purpose	The Board adopts this policy to ensure that all district schools comply with state and federal laws concerning flag displays and opening exercises while respecting the rights of individuals.
2. Authority SC 771	A United States flag shall be displayed in classrooms and on or near each school building during school hours, in clement weather and at other times determined by the Board.
SC 771	District schools shall provide opening exercises that include a salute to the flag and/or recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance or the National Anthem.
SC 771 Title 22 Sec. 12.10	Students may decline to recite the Pledge of Allegiance or National Anthem and to salute the flag on the basis of personal belief or religious conviction. Students who choose to refrain from such participation shall respect the rights and interests of classmates who do participate.
SC 1516.1	The Board shall direct professional employees to conduct a brief period of silent prayer or meditation as part of daily opening exercises. Silent prayer or meditation shall not be conducted as a religious service or exercise.
	References:  School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 771, 1516.1  State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.10