SCHOOL CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES

The Dodgeland School Board recognizes the multicultural nature of the American society including the diversity of backgrounds of individual students attending public schools. The District reflects the community, provides a multicultural educational experience for students and respects the values and ideals of all persons.

In this context, special observance days and traditional holidays or holiday seasons widely celebrated in the community may be referenced in the curriculum and school observances. Individual buildings and teachers may incorporate symbols, songs and traditions into observance activities or the curriculum in a manner that shall be inclusive of all students, have a secular educational purpose and conform to related board policies.

When an observance or curriculum activity conflicts with a student's background or values, the student shall not be required to engage in that phase of the curriculum or observance. Requests that are based on religious beliefs shall be processed in accordance with applicable district procedures. Requests for alternative activities based on other reasons may be made by the student or parents/guardians. When such a request is made, involved staff members shall provide alternative activities to the student and shall attempt to minimize the exposure of a student to the activities subject to objection.

LEGAL REF: Sections 118.02 Wisconsin Statutes
118.06
118.15
PI9 Wisconsin Administrative Code
PI41

CROSS REF: 323.1 Special Observance Days
381.1, Religion in the Schools *(if you combine policies to create this policy)*
381.1 - Rule, Procedures to Accommodate Student Religious Beliefs

Approved: February 17, 1997
Revised (WASB): April 25, 2011