



SECTION 4000: FACILITIES, GROUNDS AND EQUIPMENT

POLICY 4045: FLAGS & ASSEMBLIES – CANADA & BRITISH COLUMBIA

- *Date Adopted: November 28, 2018*
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POLICY

The Board believes the flags of Canada and British Columbia are an important part in the celebration of Canada as a country and British Columbia as a province.

Schools in the Coast Mountains School District will display the Canadian and British Columbia flags, as prescribed in the *School Act* and Regulations, generally following the protocol established by the federal government.

The Ministry of Education recognizes the importance of these symbols of patriotism. Regulation #265/89 section 5(10) and 5(11), of the *School Act*, specifically state:

“5(10) The principal of a school, other than a distributed learning school, must,

- a) subject to the approval of the Board, establish a program of school assemblies to be conducted at appropriate times during the school year.
- b) ensure that assemblies are held at least 3 times in a school year, including the school day immediately preceding Remembrance Day,
- c) ensure that the Canadian national anthem shall be sung at each school assembly, and
- d) ensure that the Canadian flag and the British Columbia flag be displayed at school while in session.”

“5(11) School assemblies referred to in subsection (10) shall be established to promote loyalty to the Crown, respect for Canadian traditions, laws, institutions and human values, and shall include observation of occasions of historic or current importance to Canada and the Commonwealth, as well as appropriate references to the Canadian flag.”



1. OCCASIONS FOR FLYING FLAGS AT HALF-MAST

Schools will fly their flags at half-mast on appropriate occasions, to bestow an honour or express a collective sense of sorrow.

The principal of the school, with prior approval of the Superintendent of Schools, will ensure flags are flown at half-mast following a general protocol as outlined:

a) National (all schools)

On the death of the Sovereign or a member of the Royal Family related in the first degree to the Sovereign (spouse, son or daughter, father, mother, brother or sister);

On the death of the Governor General, the Prime Minister, a former Governor General, a former Prime Minister;

The National Day of Mourning, held annually in Canada on April 28, dedicated to remembering those who have lost their lives, or suffered injury or illness on the job or due to a work-related tragedy, and

b) Provincial (all schools)

On the death of the Lieutenant Governor or the Premier

c) School District (all schools)

On the death of a current Trustee or Superintendent of Schools

d) School (school affected only)

On the death of a current student or staff member, and

On the death of the Member of Parliament or Member of the Legislative Assembly for the riding in which the school is located.

2. PERIOD FOR FLYING FLAGS AT HALF-MAST

Flags would normally be flown at half-mast upon the death of a person listed, up to and including the day of the funeral or memorial service.

On occasions requiring that one flag be flown at half-mast, all flags flown together should also be flown at half-mast.