



# Northeastern Catholic District School Board

## DISPLAY OF FLAGS

**Policy Number: E-33**

**Authority: 23-43**

### POLICY STATEMENT

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The Northeastern Catholic District School Board (NCDSB) is committed to openly demonstrating respect for the flag and country by flying the National Flag of Canada at all schools and at the Catholic Education Centre (Board Office). The NCDSB believes a consistent approach to the displaying of flags promotes pride, respect and honour for our country.

### REFERENCES

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*Education Act - Ontario Regulation 298*

### DEFINITIONS

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#### **Half-mast**

The term used to describe a flag flying below the summit of a flag pole, typically at a half-way point.

### POLICY REGULATIONS

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#### **1.0 GENERAL**

- 1.1 Flags shall be treated with dignity and respect, and flown or displayed properly.
- 1.2 Every NCDSB flag pole shall only fly the National Flag of Canada.
- 1.3 Only one flag shall be flown on a flag pole.
- 1.4 In such instances where there are two flag poles, the National Flag of Canada must always take a position of prominence at all times when displayed or flown with other flags.
- 1.5 NCDSB facilities with two flag poles shall only fly the Province of Ontario flag on the second pole. In special circumstances, the Principal may request permission from the Director of Education to fly a flag which is relevant to a local community or a national issue, on the second flag pole.
- 1.6 Flags must be regularly inspected for signs of wear and damage and shall be replaced when worn, noticeably faded or otherwise unfit for service.
- 1.7 When a flag is no longer in suitable condition for use, it should be destroyed in a dignified way.

1.8 All NCDSB facilities will have a National Flag of Canada displayed in a prominent place inside each school and board facility.

## **2.0 FLAG LOWERING**

2.1 The Director of Education will notify Principals when system wide lowering of the flag is required.

2.2 The National Flag of Canada will fly at half-mast as a symbol of mourning and collective loss in recognition of the death of prominent public or community figures.

2.3 The National Flag of Canada may be lowered to half-mast to recognize the death of a student or community member.

2.4 The National Flag of Canada may be lowered to half-mast to honour national days of recognition including but not limited to:

- i) National Day for Truth and Reconciliation;
- ii) National Aboriginal Veterans Day;
- iii) Remembrance Day.

2.5 Individual schools may make a request to the Director of Education to fly their flag at half-mast to recognize a special circumstance in their community.

## **3.0 OTHER FLAGS**

3.1 Schools may display local municipal flags or special purpose flags within the school only, at the discretion of the Principal.

3.2 Any flag flown or displayed in the school must not represent or imply derogatory, negative or exclusionary messaging or portrayal of any group or individual.

3.3 The display of special purpose flags must be consistent with the mission, visions, and values of the NCDSB.