

Civic Observances

Purpose

This policy sets forth required and recommended observances in schools in recognition of Veterans Day, Constitution Day, Temperance and Good Citizenship Day, Disability History Month, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Scope

This policy applies to the Superintendent, administrators, staff, students, parents and guardians and interested community members.

Policy

1. To assist all students in developing an awareness and understanding of his/her role as a responsible and contributing citizen of the community at large, educational activities relating to the observance of the following officially-recognized civic days will be incorporated in school programs:
 - 1.1. Constitution Day will be observed each year on September 17th in commemoration of the September 17, 1787, signing of the United States Constitution. If September 17th occurs on a non-school day, Constitution Day will be conducted on the preceding Friday.
 - 1.2. Disability History Month will be observed during the month of October by conducting or promoting educational activities that provide instruction, awareness and understanding of disability history and people with disabilities.
 - 1.3. In honor of veterans and the institutions and laws of Washington State and the nation, educational activities will be conducted during the school week preceding Veterans Day, which occurs on the eleventh day of November of each year. Principals will be responsible for the preparation and presentation of activities of approximately sixty (60) minutes total during the week.
 - 1.4. Temperance and Good Citizenship Day will be observed on January 16th each year. If January 16th occurs on a non-school day, the observance will be conducted on the preceding Friday. The day may include encouragement and support for eligible students to register to vote.
 - 1.5. In recognition of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, observed on the third Monday in January of each year, schools are encouraged to study and reflect on the importance of Dr. King, Jr.'s ideals, life, and work in context with the many heroes of the civil rights movement throughout our nation's history, and with respect to the fundamental principle and promise of equality under the U.S. Constitution.

Related Procedures

N/A

Policy Cross References

N/A

Policy Legal References

RCW 28A.230.150 – Temperance and Good Citizenship Day — Aids in programming

RCW 28A.230.158 – Disability history month — Activities

RCW 28A.230.160 – Educational activities in observance of Veterans Day

RCW 28A.230.178 – Civil rights education

House Resolution 4676, Washington State House of Representatives

36 U.S.C. 106 – Constitution and Citizenship Day

Management Resources

Policy & Legal News, August 2014 – State law requires observance of Disability History Month

Policy & Legal News, February 2014

Policy News, August 2006 – Constitution Day Recognition

Policy History

Action:	Date:
Approved by the Board	May 20, 2015
Revised	
Revised	
Revised	