

DATE: April 25, 2017

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee Ken Gibson, Policy Review Committee
Trustee Cheryl Johner, Policy Review Committee
Trustee Bridget Stirling, Chair, Policy Review Committee

SUBJECT: First Reading, Board Policy ACB.BP National Anthem and Flag

ORIGINATOR: Karen Mills, Director Board and Superintendent Relations

RESOURCE STAFF: Marnie Beaudoin, Nancy Petersen

REFERENCE: [ACB.BP National Anthem and Flag](#)
[Trustees' Handbook](#) Section 6.1 – Caucus Committee
Board Policy CH.BP – Framework for Policy Development and Review

ISSUE

The Policy Review Committee is presenting draft Board Policy ACB.BP National Anthem and Flag for first reading.

BACKGROUND

The Policy Review Committee reviewed draft Board Policy ACB.BP National Anthem and Flag in alignment to ensure the policy is current.

RELATED FACTS

Revisions to Board policy ACB.BP National Anthem and Flag include:

- ensuring accuracy of *School Act* references
- adjusting language use to reflect the Board's vision and intent
- aligning to the current policy template through the inclusion of a Purpose, Expectations and Accountability statement
- District General Counsel has reviewed ACB.BP National Anthem and Flag

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Board policy ACB.BP National Anthem and Flag be introduced.
2. That Board policy ACB.BP National Anthem and Flag be read for the first time and approved for posting on the District website for stakeholder input.

OPTIONS

Based on the information provided in this report, the following options are considered most appropriate:

1. Approve the first reading of policy ACB.BP National Anthem and Flag at the April 25, 2017 Board meeting.
2. Decline to approve the policy ACB.BP National Anthem and Flag and provide feedback and/or request changes.

CONSIDERATIONS and ANALYSIS

- The current policy ACB.BP National Anthem and Flag requires revisions to align it with the District policy template.
- The scheduled review year for policy ACB.BP National Anthem and Flag is 2017.

NEXT STEPS

1. A recommendation report will be brought to public Board on June 6, 2017, requesting second and third and final reading of policy ACB.BP National Anthem and Flag.
2. Once approved, policy ACB.BP National Anthem and Flag will be communicated through the District's communication channels.

ATTACHMENTS and APPENDICES

ATTACHMENT I Draft Board Policy ACB.BP National Anthem and Flag

MB:mb

CODE: ACB.BP**EFFECTIVE DATE:** (00-00-0000)**TOPIC:** National Anthem and Flag**ISSUE DATE:** (00-00-0000)**REVIEW YEAR:** (0000)

PURPOSE

To reflect the Board of Trustees' (the Board) responsibility to support the use of the Canadian national anthem and Canadian flag in Edmonton Public Schools.

POLICY

The Board believes that the Canadian flag and Canadian national anthem are powerful symbols of our Canadian identity as a multicultural and democratic nation.

The Board believes that demonstrations of Canadian identity contribute to a climate of mutual respect and trust conducive to student learning, personal development, social living and citizenship within a Canadian context.

EXPECTATIONS

All Edmonton Public Schools shall display the Canadian flag and are expected to play or conduct regular singing of the national anthem.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The Superintendent shall ensure the District uses appropriate protocols related to the use of the national anthem and Canadian flag.

REFERENCES

FA.BP - Human Resources Framework
FBCA.AR - Respectful Working Environments
GGAB.BP - Multicultural Education
GNDB.AR - Flying and Displaying Flags in Schools
School Act Sections 26 and 50.1(d)