



<u>DUFFERIN-PEEL CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD</u>	
<u>BOARD POLICY</u>	
BOARD POLICY NUMBER:	P-8007
SUBJECT:	Flag Protocol
REFERENCE:	Guidelines for National Symbols, Government of Canada Regulation 298 of the <i>Education Act</i>
EFFECTIVE DATE:	May 20, 2003
AMENDED DATE:	December 8, 2015; April 24, 2024; June 18, 2024; January 2025

*“Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.”*

Psalms 67:4

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) adheres to the guidelines regarding the flying of flags in accordance with Guidelines for National Symbols, Government of Canada, and Regulation 298 of the *Education Act*.

2 FLAGS

- 2.1 The National Flag of Canada shall be flown at each DPCDSB facility including all schools and DPCDSB facilities. Wherever the National Flag of Canada is flown, it shall be flown on a flagpole alone.
- 2.2 At board facilities where two flag poles exist the provincial flag of Ontario shall be flown on the second flag pole. Where there are three existing flag poles at a board facility the third flag pole will fly the DPCDSB flag (containing the DPCDSB logo).
- 2.3 The National Flag of Canada, the Provincial flag and the flags of the Provinces and Territories of Canada, and the DPCDSB flag may be displayed inside schools or other DPCDSB facilities.

On Remembrance Day, only the National Flag of Canada shall be flown.

3 HALF-STAFF

- 3.1 All flags at DPCDSB schools and facilities shall be flown at half-staff upon the direction of the Director of Education or designate. Flags are flown at half-staff in recognition of the death of prominent public figures and other individuals, as well as for national memorial days.
- 3.2 Individual schools, at the discretion of the principal and in consultation with their supervisory officer, may fly their flag at half-staff to recognize the death of a student or staff member.
- 3.3 On Remembrance Day, flags at all DPCDSB schools and facilities shall be flown at half-staff from 11:00 a.m. to the end of the instructional day as a symbol of respect.

4 FLAG REQUIREMENTS

- 4.1 Flags must always be treated with dignity and respect.
- 4.2 Flags shall be regularly inspected for signs of wear and damage, and shall be replaced when worn, noticeably faded, or otherwise unfit for service. When a flag is tattered and is no longer in a suitable condition for use, it should be destroyed in a dignified way.
- 4.3 When raised or lowered, a flag should be prevented from touching or falling to the ground.
- 4.4 No banners or pennants should be flown together on the same pole except at single pole locations.
- 4.5 The Canadian flag may be displayed flat or flown on a staff. If flat, it may be hung horizontally or vertically. If it hangs vertically against a wall, the flag should be placed so that the upper part of the leaf is to the left and the stem is to the right as seen by spectators.
- 4.6 In a procession, the Canadian flag shall be at the marching right or at the centre front.
- 4.7 No flag, banner, or pennant shall be flown or displayed above the Canadian flag.
- 4.8 Where possible, the Canadian flag shall be flown from the highest pole.
- 4.9 No flag flown at schools or DPCDSB facilities shall be larger than the Canadian flag.
- 4.10 Where three flags are flown together, the Canadian flag shall be in the centre.

5 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE CANADIAN FLAG

- 5.1 Opening exercises for a school day may include a pledge to the Canadian flag. Schools may use the following pledge or adapt it to their specific situation:

Pledge of Allegiance to the Canadian Flag:

I pledge allegiance to my flag and to the country it represents, I pledge respect and loyalty. Wave with pride from sea to sea and within your folds, keep us ever united. Be for all a symbol of love, freedom, and justice. God keep our flag. God protect our Canada.

- 5.2 Principals should consider including a Pledge to the Flag as part of the opening exercises on school days which are on or near days of special national significance (e.g. Remembrance Day, Canada Day).