

**SCHOOL CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES**

**3.61**

**Flag Display**

The Henry County Board of Education requires that all school display both the flags of the United States and the State of Alabama at some suitable place each and every day school is in session.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

All students must have the opportunity to recite on a voluntary basis the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag each day.

**Prayer and Religious Expression**

The Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled that school-sponsored prayer or other religious observances at public school activities is illegal. The Henry County Board of Education, in compliance with federal law as it applies to the State of Alabama, allows student-initiated prayer or other religious observances at school activities.

As required by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, the Superintendent shall, by October 1 of each year, certify in writing to the state that students of the School System are not prevented by policy or rule from participating in constitutionally protected prayer. The Superintendent shall ensure that the staff, parents/guardians, and students are made aware of the parameters of acceptable religious speech and actions. The Superintendent shall also distribute guidelines to each school concerning religion in the schools.

**Moment of Quiet Reflection**

Henry County School System teachers shall provide students a moment of quiet reflection for one (1) minute every school day.

**REFERENCE(S):**

**CODE OF ALABAMA  
16-1-20.4, 16-43-1, 16-43-5  
NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT OF 2001**

**HISTORY:**

**ADOPTED: JANUARY 16, 1997  
REVISED: OCTOBER 11, 2007; JULY 18, 2013; \_\_\_\_\_  
FORMERLY: IKD**