

## **CROWLEY ISD ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION**

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**Board Policy: EC (LEGAL)      Date Effective: September 1, 2003**  
**Revision Date: August 1, 2012**

### **Re: Pledge of Allegiance to U.S. and Texas Flags followed by a moment (minute) of silence**

*EC (Legal) requires that students once during each school day recite the pledges of allegiance to the U.S. and Texas Flags followed by one minute of silence. In the enactment of fulfilling this state law the following needs to be addressed:*

- I. "On written request from a student's parent or guardian, the District shall excuse the student from reciting a pledge of allegiance"
- II. "During the one-minute period, each student may reflect, pray, or meditate, or engage in any other silent activity that is not likely to interfere with or distract another student."
- III. "Each teacher or other school employee in charge of the students during the period of silence shall ensure that each student remains silent and does not act in a manner that is likely to interfere with or distract another student."

The critical component of this law is that students learn to sit quietly and respect the rights of each other. Society is full of instant gratification, constant noise pollution, a bombardment of the senses, and other things that encourage immediate decisions rather than thinking and reflecting upon the pros and cons of a decision. Taking the time to think is a vital component of critical analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information. By taking the minute of silence we are modeling an important concept for students and encouraging students to utilize a valuable skill that can be incorporated into other components of their life and learning.

There is not anything sacred about 60 seconds in this policy. It is a guideline that is a general time reference. Campus personnel are not expected to get out a stopwatch and make sure that there is exactly 60 seconds of silence in every classroom. However, it is a guideline that should be respected with a variance not to exceed 15 seconds in either direction.

### **Exhibit A: Request to Not Have Students Recite a Pledge of Allegiance**

**Exhibit A**



**Request to Not Have Students Recite a Pledge of Allegiance**

Campus \_\_\_\_\_

As the parent/guardian of the student(s) listed below I am making this written request that they not be required to recite a pledge of allegiance. I understand that they are to be respectful and sit quietly while the other students are reciting the pledge.

Parent/Guardian Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name (s) 1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

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**To Be Filled Out By District**

Campus Representative Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Campus Representative Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE GIVE A SIGNED COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT TO THE PARENT/GUARDIAN, THE TEACHER(S) THAT WILL BE HONORING THE REQUEST, AND KEEP A COPY IN THE OFFICE**

