

FLAG RAISING

Statement of Policy

The Peel District School Board approves the establishment of guidelines for the raising of flags in accordance with Regulation 298 made under the Education Act (1995) and with the Peel District School Board Administrative Regulations.

This policy is aligned with and supports the principles and expectations of the Board's Human Rights policy ([Policy 51](#)) and the Equity and Inclusive Education policy ([Policy 54](#)). At all times, this policy should be interpreted to be consistent with the Board's policies and the *Human Rights Code*.

Regulation 298 Under the Education Act:

Flag

- 5 (1) *Every school shall fly both the National Flag of Canada and the Provincial Flag of Ontario on such occasions as the Board directs.*
- (2) *Every school shall display in the school, the National Flag of Canada and the Provincial Flag of Ontario.*

Administrative Regulations

1. Schools shall fly the flags listed in Regulation 298.
2. Schools may, in addition to the flags mandated by Regulation 298, display in the school the flags of the Provinces and Territories of Canada and others deemed appropriate through criteria established by the Operating Procedure.
3. The Pride flag and the Indigenous flag will be raised at all Peel District School Board schools and sites in the month of June.
4. At the H.J.A. Brown Education Centre, there are three flag poles which shall fly the National Flag of Canada, the Provincial Flag of Ontario and the Flag of the Region of Peel respectively.
5. Community groups who rent school facilities in accordance with Peel District School Board Policy 42 may display the flag of their country of origin inside the room rented for the duration of their permit.
6. The flag will be lowered for declared days of the federal government as identified by Heritage Canada, "Half-Masting of the Flags" notices or Government of Ontario, International Relations and Protocol, "Annual Half-Mast Days" web pages. Additionally, the flags will be lowered to half-mast upon the request/direction of the Federal or Provincial government.
7. Flags are flown at half-mast in recognition of the death of prominent public figures and other individuals. All flags at Peel District School Board locations shall be flown at half-mast upon the direction of the Director of Education or designate. Flags would be flown at half mast from sunrise to sunset.
8. Individual schools, at the discretion of the principal, may fly their flag at half-mast to recognize the death of a student, staff member or community member.

9. On Remembrance Day, flags at all Peel District School Board schools and locations shall be flown at half-mast from sunrise until sunset as a sign of mourning. If a service is held at the flagpole, however, the flag would be lowered from the 11:00 a.m. time of service until sunset.
10. As a general rule, the National Flag of Canada should be displayed only in a manner befitting this important national symbol; it should not be subjected to indignity or displayed in a position inferior to any other flag or ensign. The Canadian flag always takes precedence over all other national flags when flown in Canada. All flags must be treated with dignity and respect at all times, in accordance with the following:
- Flags should 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 becomes worn, noticeably faded or otherwise unfit for service, it must be disposed of according to Federal protocol.
 - When being raised or lowered, a flag should be prevented from touching or falling to the ground.
 - No flags, banners or pennants should be flown together on the same pole except at single pole locations and even at these the Canadian flag must fly above.
 - Where possible the Canadian Flag should be flown from the highest pole.
 - No flag should be larger than the Canadian Flag.
11. If schools choose to display flags inside the building (for example, in the entrance or at an assembly or other special event) the Canadian flag must take precedence. When three flags are displayed, the Canadian flag should be at the centre. To an observer facing the display, the second-ranking flag (in order of precedence) is placed to the left of centre, and the other to the right. A common combination of flags is that of the Canadian flag with a provincial or territorial flag, and a municipal flag or an organization's banner. In such a case, the Canadian flag should be in the center with the provincial/territorial flag to the left and the municipal flag/organization's banner to the right (to an observer facing the display).

When two flags (or more than three flags) are displayed, the position of honour is furthest to the left (to an observer facing the display). When three flags are flown, the position of honour is in the center.

The order of precedence for flags is:

- The National Flag of Canada
- The flags of other sovereign nations in alphabetical order (if applicable)
- The flags of the provinces of Canada
- The flags of the territories of Canada
- The flags of municipalities/cities
- Banners of organizations

Reference: Communications & Community Relations 5

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