



INSTRUCTION: Prayer and Religious Literature

I. Compliance

- A. No employee of the Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) may authorize or require the reading of religious literature or the saying of prayer as a devotional exercise in a public school of Baltimore County.
- B. Daily school opening exercises may include United States government approved patriotic exercises and/or a moment of silent meditation.
- C. Any student or teacher wishing to be excused from participation in any opening exercises shall be excused.
- D. No attempt shall be made to prevent a student from engaging in voluntary prayer or reading religious literature provided it does not interfere with school activities required of the student.

Legal References: *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Education Article §7-104, §7-105  
COMAR 13A.04.04.01

Related Policies: Board of Education Policy 5600, *Students' Rights and Responsibilities*  
Board of Education Policy 6703, *Patriotic Exercises*

Policy  
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Revised: 9/08/09

Board of Education of Baltimore County