

R277-475 received final approval by the Utah State Board of Education on September 5, 2019. R277-475 is published in the October 1, 2019 Utah State Bulletin, subject to a 30-day comment period, with a first possible effective date of November 7, 2019.

**R277. Education, Administration.**

**R277-475. Patriotic, Civic and Character Education.**

**R277-475-1. Authority and Purpose.**

(1) This rule is authorized by:

(a) the Utah Constitution Article X, Section 3 which vests general control and supervision of the public school system under the Board;

(b) Subsection 53E-3-401(4) which allows the Board to adopt rules in accordance with its responsibilities; and

(c) Section 53G-10-304 which directs the Board to provide a rule for a program of instruction within the public schools relating to the flag of the United States.

(2) The purpose of this rule is to provide direction for patriotic, civic and character education programs in an LEA.

**R277-475-[4]2. Definitions.**

~~[A. "Board" means the Utah State Board of Education.]~~

~~[B.](1) "Character education" means the same as that term is defined in Subsection 53G-10-204(1)(a)~~[reaffirming values and qualities of character which promote an upright and desirable citizenry].~~~~

~~[C.](2) "Civic education" means the same as that term is defined in Subsection 53G-10-204(1)(b)~~[-cultivation of informed, responsible participation in political life by competent citizens committed to the fundamental values and principles of representative democracy in Utah and the United States].~~~~

~~[D.](3) "LEA" ~~[means a local education agency, including local school boards/public school districts, charter schools, and,]~~ includes for purposes of this rule, the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.~~

~~[E.](4) "Patriotic" means having love of and dedication to one's country.~~

~~[F.](5) "Patriotic education" means the educational and systematic process to help students identify, acquire, and act upon a dedication to one's country.~~

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**~~[R277-475-2. Authority and Purpose.~~**

~~\_\_\_\_\_ A. This rule is authorized by Utah Constitution Article X, Section 3 which vests general control and supervision of the public school system under the Board, by Section 53G-10-304 which directs the Board to provide a rule for a program of instruction within the public schools relating to the flag of the United States, and by Subsection 53E-3-401(4) which allows the Board to adopt rules in accordance with its responsibilities.~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ B. The purpose of this rule is to provide direction for patriotic education programs in the public schools.]~~

**R277-475-3. Patriotic, Civic and Character Education.**

(1) An LEA shall [teach]provide instruction for patriotic, civic and character education in the social studies curricula of kindergarten through grade twelve.

(2) [All educators]An LEA shall ensure an educator [shall have]has responsibility for patriotic, civic and character education taught in an integrated school curriculum and in the regular course of school work.

**R277-475-4. School Responsibilities and Required Instruction.**

[A.](1) An LEA shall:

(a) ensure that all p[P]atriotic, civic and character education programs[ shall meet] are consistent with the requirements of Sections 53G-10-302, 53G-10-304, and 53G-10-204;[-

~~\_\_\_\_\_ B. An LEA shall teach students the history of the flag, etiquette, customs pertaining to the display and use of the flag, and other patriotic exercises consistent with Subsection 53G-10-304(2).~~

~~\_\_\_\_\_ C. The school shall]\_\_\_\_\_ (b) provide the setting and opportunities to teach [by example and role modeling] patriotic values associated with the flag of the United States by example; and[-]~~

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(c) make information about the flag, respect for the flag, and civility toward all during patriotic activities available on the LEA's website.

~~[D. The USOE shall, under the direction of the Board, provide guidelines for both elementary age students and secondary students about the flag and patriotic exercises.]~~

~~[E.]~~(2) An LEA shall provide ~~[f]~~instruction in United States history and government ~~[shall]~~ that includes the following:

~~[(1)]~~a) a study of forms of government including:

~~[(a)]~~i) a republic;

~~[(b)]~~ii) a pure democracy;

~~[(c)]~~iii) a monarchy; and

~~[(d)]~~iv) an oligarchy.

~~[(2)]~~b) political philosophies and economic systems including:

~~[(a)]~~i) socialism;

~~[(b)]~~ii) individualism; and

~~[(c)]~~iii) free market capitalism.

~~[(3)]~~c) the United States' form of government~~[;]~~ a compound constitutional republic; and~~[;]~~

(d) the flag of the United States and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag consistent with:

(i) Subsection 53G-10-304(2);

(ii) Section 76-9-601;

(iii) the plan of the social studies Core curriculum in grades kindergarten through six; and

(iv) Subsection 53G-10-304(3).

~~[R277-475-5. Requirements.]~~

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~~A. An LEA shall provide Education about the flag and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag shall be taught and modeled following the plan of the social studies Core Curriculum in grades kindergarten through six.~~

~~B. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag shall be recited by students at the beginning of each school day in each public school classroom in the state, consistent with Subsection 53G-10-304(3).~~

~~C. At least once a year students shall be instructed that:~~

~~—— (1) participation in the Pledge of Allegiance is voluntary and not compulsory;~~

~~—— (2) it is acceptable for an individual to choose not to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance for religious or other reasons; and~~

~~—— (3) students should show respect for individuals who participate and individuals who choose not to participate.~~

~~—— D. A public school teacher shall strive to maintain an atmosphere among students in the classroom that is consistent with the principles described in R277-475-5C.]~~

**R277-475-[6]5. ~~[Parental Responsibilities]~~Parental Notice of Pledge of Allegiance.**

~~[A.](1)~~ An LEA shall adequately notify students and parents of lawful exemptions to the requirement to participate in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

~~[B.](2)~~ An ~~[school]~~ LEA may require an annual written request from a student's parent ~~[or legal guardian]~~ if a student or the student's parent ~~[or legal guardian]~~ requests that the student be excused from reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**~~[R277-475-7. Civic Engagement.~~**

~~A. A public school shall display IN GOD WE TRUST, the national motto of the United States, in one or more prominent places in each school building, consistent with Subsection 53G-10-302(6).~~

~~—— B. Civic and character education shall be achieved through an integrated school curriculum and in the regular course of school work.~~

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~~—— C. Instruction in United States history and government shall be taught consistent with the Utah social studies core curriculum and Section 53G-10-302.~~

~~D. An LEA shall make information about the flag, respect for the flag and civility toward all during patriotic activities available on the LEA's website.]~~

**~~[R277-475-8. Reporting Requirements.~~**

~~—— A. The Board shall submit a report to the Education Interim Committee consistent with Subsection 53G-10-204(7).~~

~~B. Each school district and the State Charter School Board shall submit a report to the Lieutenant Governor and the Commission on Civic and Character Education consistent with Subsection 53G-10-204(6).]~~

**KEY: curricula, patriotic education, civic education, character education**

**Date of Enactment or Last Substantive Amendment: ~~[June 8, 2015]~~ 2019**

**Notice of Continuation: May 1, 2015**

**Authorizing, and Implemented, or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3; 53G-10-304; 53E-3-401(4)**