

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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PART 2

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Chap.		Sec.
101.	General Provisions	801
103.	Duties of Administrative Units	851
105.	Attendance and Discipline	911
107.	Statistics and Registration	961
109.	Health, Safety and Physical Education	1011
111.	Religion and Morals	1221
113.	High Schools	1281
115.	Academies and Seminaries	1341
117.	Children at Private Tax-Exempt Institutions	1391
119.	Unorganized Territories	1451

CHAPTER 101

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec.	
801.	Holidays; special observances.
802.	Flags in schools.
803.	Secret societies prohibited.
804.	School bus shelters

§ 801. Holidays; special observances

The following days shall be observed as school holidays, namely: Patriot's Day, April 19th; Memorial Day, May 30th; Independence Day, July 4th; Labor Day, first Monday in September; Veterans Day, November 11th; Christmas Day, December 25th; Thanksgiving and Arbor Day, as appointed by the Governor. Arbor Day shall not be recognized as a school holiday unless observed by teacher and pupils for the purpose for which it is designated by the Governor. Lincoln Day shall be observed by devoting some part of the day to the study of the life and character of Abraham Lincoln. All teachers of public schools in the State shall close their schools on the above-named days. When any one of the above-named holidays falls on a Sunday, the Monday following shall be observed as a school holiday, with all

the privileges applying to any of the days above-named. In addition to the foregoing, New Year's Day, January 1st; Washington's Birthday, February 22nd; Columbus Day, October 12th, shall, upon vote of the superintending school committee or school directors of any administrative unit, be observed by teachers and pupils of the public schools of said administrative unit by an exercise appropriate thereto, such exercise to be held during such part of the school session as the teacher of each school may designate. The exercises so held shall aim to impress on the minds of the youth the important lessons of character and good citizenship to be learned from the lives of American leaders and heroes and from a contemplation of their own duties and obligations to the community, State and nation of which they constitute a part. In the absence of any vote of the superintending school committee or school directors, said days shall be observed as legal school holidays with the closing of schools

R.S.1954, c. 41, § 154; 1955, c. 405, § 32; 1957, c. 364, § 74; 1959, c. 230, § 1; 1961, c. 395, § 22; 1963, c. 403, § 7-A; c. 414, § 15.

§ 802. Flags in schools

Superintendents of schools shall see that the flag is displayed from the public school buildings on appropriate occasions. They shall report annually to the towns or school directors the amount necessary to furnish the public schools with suitable flags and flagstuffs, and all administrative units shall annually appropriate, under section 3721, subsection 2, a sufficient amount to defray the necessary cost of the display of the flag. It shall be the duty of instructors to impress upon the youth by suitable references and observances the significance of the flag, to teach them the cost, the object and principles of our government, the inestimable sacrifices made by our forefathers, the important contribution made by all who have served in the armed services of our country since its inception and to teach them to love, honor and respect the flag of our country that cost so much and is so dear to every true American citizen.

R.S.1954, c. 41, § 73; 1957, c. 364, § 36.

§ 803. Secret societies prohibited

No pupil of any public, elementary or secondary school shall participate in or be a member of any secret fraternity or

secret society whatsoever that is in any degree a school organization. Superintending school committees and school directors shall enforce this section and may expel or otherwise discipline any pupil for failure or refusal to comply with its provisions.

R.S.1954, c. 41, § 56; 1957, c. 364, § 27.

§ 804. School bus shelters

School bus shelters for school children, when approved by the superintending school committee of the town in which they are located may, notwithstanding the 50 feet from the nearer line of the traveled way provision of Title 32, section 2758, be placed or maintained outside the right-of-way and at least 33 feet from the center line of any highway and carry not more than 2 panels on the sides thereof for the identification of sponsors. No such panel shall exceed 32 square feet or extend beyond the sides of such shelter and at least 60% of its area must be devoted to public service, safety or other noncommercial use. Each such shelter shall, to the satisfaction of the superintending school committee, be constructed of steel or other durable material, with concrete floor raised above ground level, kept clean, well painted or otherwise suitably maintained at all times and kept free from snow, or the committee may order its removal.

1961, c. 252.