

MEMORIALS

The Board recognizes the depth of feeling associated with the tragic loss of a child or other person who has had special significance to students, the school district or the community. The Board also recognizes that memorial observances can bring back difficult memories of tragedies that may have previously occurred in the lives of students and staff. Additionally, some emotionally unstable students may even contemplate tragic action upon seeing the attention that can be given in the memory of those who have died.

In view of these issues, the following guidance is given to school officials when considering requests for school memorials.

An annual postsecondary scholarship funded by the family or other group outside the school is acceptable as an ongoing school memorial. A tree may be provided by the family or school for planting on school grounds. A photograph and written narrative may be included in the school yearbook. School officials may, in cases where a student's death occurred during a school activity, authorize a school award associated with the talent or interest of the student to be given annually to deserving students with the same talent or interest.

Memorabilia, photographs, or other memorial items will not be displayed in any school. However, items for school use such as podiums, approved library books, or special equipment may be donated and identified with a small engraving or name plate recognizing the donor(s) and the circumstances. Items received become the property of the school district.

Although memorial recognition during school graduations is not recommended, the senior class leadership may, in extenuating circumstances and with the permission of the high school principal, plan for appropriate observance. Requests for such observances must be made in writing to the high school principal. No requests to students or student groups will be permitted. Memorial diplomas will not be authorized.

The use of school facilities for memorial services will only be allowed in extenuating circumstances.

Adopted: 03/12/98

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