

INSTRUCTION

File: IE

MINUTE OF SILENCE

At each school, a minute of silence shall be observed daily. The principal shall designate the time for the minute of silence to occur each day.

The teacher shall ensure that each student: (1) remains seated and silent and (2) does not disrupt or distract other students during the minute of silence. The minute may be used for any lawful silent activity, including personal reflection, prayer and meditation. However, the teacher responsible for each class shall not influence, in any way, students to pray or meditate or not to pray or meditate during the minute of silence. Students and employees are prohibited from praying aloud during the minute of silence.

Adopted: July 16, 1998
Revised: September 20, 2000
Revised: March 18, 2004
Revised: April 17, 2008

Legal References: Code of Virginia, § 22.1-203; Virginia State Board of Education "Guidelines Concerning Religious Activity in the Public Schools;" Wallace v. Jaffree, 472 U.S. 38 (1985).