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| OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD  | Policy Code: KCDA |
| Policy Committee Review: June 14, 2017 & Sept. 13, 2017<br>School Board First Read: October 4, 2017<br>School Board Second Read/Adoption: October 18, 2017 | Page 1 of 1       |

## **MEMORIALS, DEDICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

The loss of a student or staff member deeply impacts the school and larger community. Decisions made in the aftermath of a crisis or death can be filled with emotion and should not be made without the full consideration of potential implications. The Oyster River Cooperative School Board has developed this policy to provide a process for memorial decision-making and to provide guidelines surrounding them.

### General Statement of Policy

In recognition that schools are designed primarily to support learning, it is best that Oyster River schools should not serve as venues for memorializing students and staff. Memorial activities expressed at school need to be appropriate in scope and duration and serve the purpose to help the community grieve and heal.

The administration of the school in consultation with the crisis response team will assist students and families in selecting memorial activities that are appropriate for school and assist students and staff in healthy bereavement. It is further recognized that the building administration should have discretion in these situations to make professional judgments in consultation with the crisis response team and the superintendent. All decisions regarding memorials in schools will rest with the building administration with an appeal to the superintendent.

Cross Reference: KCDA-R – Memorials, Dedications and Recognitions Procedure