

Purpose: To enforce the recitation of the United States Pledge of Allegiance in accordance with MS Code § 37-13-7 (2024)

Introduced by: Walter Giesen

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE SENATE:

SECTION ONE (REASONING):

In accordance with Mississippi Code § 37-13-7 all Mississippi public school students must recite the Pledge of Allegiance at least once a school month. In this regard, MSMS currently fails to meet the minimum requirement and should do everything in its power to abide by all rules set by the state of Mississippi.

The law is as follows:

Mississippi Code 1972 (2024) Title 37 - EDUCATION (§§ 37-1-1 — 37-189-1) Chapter 13 - CURRICULUM; SCHOOL YEAR AND ATTENDANCE (§§ 37-13-1 — 37-13-213) IN GENERAL (§§ 37-13-1 — 37-13-60.1) Section 37-13-7 - Pledges of allegiance to United States and Mississippi flags

The boards of trustees of the public schools of this state shall require the teachers under their control to have all pupils repeat the oath of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America at least once during each school month, such oath of allegiance being as follows: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

The Pledge of Allegiance used to be recited multiple times a week at MSMS when the school had a home room block. When MSMS went away from having a home room block, the regular recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance went with it.

SECTION TWO (PROPOSED ACTION)

Unless the Pledge of Allegiance has been or will be recited at school event in a specific school month (graduation, opening convocation, etc.), the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science should hold monthly recitations by the American flag outside the Hooper Science Building at a time decided by MSMS administration and communicated to the student body. The Pledge of Allegiance shall be led by a member of MSMS administration or an individual chosen by MSMS administration. This event may be counted as a wellness seminar at the discretion of MSMS administration.

