I. PURPOSE

The Board of Directors recognizes the need to annually address the issue of whether or not the Pledge of Allegiance will be recited at Bdote Learning Center (BLC).

II. POLICY STATEMENT

A. Bdote Learning Center recognizes that state law requires that all public charter school students recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America one or more times each week. State law also permits a charter school board of directors to annually, by majority vote, waive this requirement.

B. In the event Bdote Learning Center’s board of directors does not waive the requirement to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, any student or teacher may decline to participate in recitation of the pledge. The Bdote Learning Center student handbook must include a statement that anyone who does not wish to participate in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance for any personal reasons may elect not to do so and that students must respect another person’s right to make that choice.

C. If the requirement to recite the Pledge of Allegiance is not waived by a majority vote of the board of directors, Bdote Learning Center must instruct students in the proper etiquette toward, correct display of, and respect for the flag in patriotic exercises.

D. In the event the board of directors does waive the statutory requirement to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, the board may, at its discretion, adopt a different policy regarding the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Legal References (the following are included for reference purposes only, may not reflect the most current relevant statutory citation, and should not be read to contravene or limit the school’s obligations under any federal, state, or local law):

Minn. Stat. § 121A.11, Subd. 3 (Pledge of Allegiance)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.11, Subd. 4 (Instruction)