

**ARKANSAS DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**  
**RULES GOVERNING THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER ACT**  
**Proposed Effective March 2022**

**1.00 AUTHORITY**

- 1.01 The Arkansas State Board of Education’s authority for promulgating these Rules is pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 6-11-105 and 6-10-136 and Act 958 of 2021.
- 1.02 These Rules shall be known as the Arkansas Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (“Division”) Rules Governing the Star-Spangled Banner Act.

**2.00 LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS**

The State Board of Education (“State Board”) notes that the Arkansas General Assembly finds that:

- 2.01 It is of the utmost importance that Arkansas youth learn the importance of the national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner";
- 2.02 The regular playing of "The Star-Spangled Banner" will foster patriotism and celebrate the common American experience; and
- 2.03 "The Star-Spangled Banner" should be played in solemn observance and recognition for the men and women who have sacrificed their lives in defense of the American Experiment.

**3.00 BROADCAST POLICY**

- 3.01 Each school district board of directors shall adopt a policy requiring each public kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) school in the district to broadcast "The Star-Spangled Banner" at the commencement of each school-sanctioned sporting event.
- 3.01.1 If any part of two (2) or more school- sanctioned sporting events occur on the same day at the same school, a public school may choose to broadcast "The Star-Spangled Banner" at only one (1) of the events.
- 3.02 The policy shall also require each public kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) school in the district to broadcast "The Star-Spangled Banner" at least one (1) time each week during school hours.
- 3.03 The board, district, or school shall select for broadcast, any recording of “The Star-Spangled Banner” that includes the lyrics from the first verse written by

Francis Scott Key or is the standard arrangement or standard instrumental version used by U.S. military bands or similar arrangement or version.

3.04 A school district board of directors may adopt a policy that allows the performance of "The Star-Spangled Banner" at school-sanctioned sporting events, at schools during school hours, or both:

3.04.1 From original sheet music that adheres to Section 3.03 of these rules and is performed by a school- sanctioned band program;

3.04.2 From original sheet music that adheres to Section 3.03 of these rules and is performed by a school-sanctioned chorale program, vocal group, or vocalist; or

3.04.3 By the attendees of a school-sanctioned event led by a vocalist selected by the principal of the public school hosting the school-sanctioned event.