



SECTION:	General School Administration	APPROVAL DATE:
SUBSECTION:	School Building Administration	May 7, 2001
POLICY NAME:	Opening and Closing Procedures	LAST REVISED:
POLICY NUMBER:	R.GSA.E.17	May 7, 2001

1. This policy and its regulations shall be administered in accordance with the provisions of the Education Act, 2000, Ontario Regulation 298 and amendments and the Mission Statement of the Wellington Catholic District School Board.
2. Formal prayer shall form part of every opening and/or closing exercise.
3. Scriptural readings may form part of every opening and/or closing exercise.
4. Secular readings/recitation/reflections and/or a period of silence may form part of every opening and/or closing exercise.
5. The singing of the National Anthem, O Canada, shall form part of every opening and/or closing exercise.
6. The principal, after consultation with the Catholic School Council, may decide whether the recitation of the Pledge of Citizenship will be part of the opening and/or closing exercises at the school. This decision will be reviewed annually.
7. Where the principal decides that the Pledge of Citizenship is to be recited, only the Canadian Oath of Citizenship as established under federal legislation shall be recited.
8. In accordance with the amendments to Ontario Regulation 298/2000, the principal shall exempt a pupil from participating in the singing of, O Canada and the Pledge of Citizenship under the following circumstances.
 - a) In the case of a pupil who is less than 18 years of age, if the pupil's parent or guardian applies to the principal to be exempted.
 - b) In the case of a pupil who is at least 18 years of age, if the pupil applies to the principal to be exempted.