

MOUNT DESERT ISLAND REGIONAL SCHOOL DEPARTMENT GUIDELINES FOR MEMORIALIZING DECEASED STUDENTS

The Mount Desert Island Regional School Department will consult with parents of a deceased student to determine if the parents consent in memorializing their child.

Memorials: The Mount Desert Island Regional School Department may maintain a memorial sculpture and/or garden area for quiet reflection to commemorate all deceased students. Individual memorials are not permitted. A plaque with names of deceased students may be included at this site. A name will be listed on the plaque until three years after what would have been the student's scheduled date of graduation from high school.

Graduation:

- ❖ Deceased students may be recognized on what was to be their date of graduation or promotion through a moment of silence by the principal of the school at the beginning of the graduation or promotion ceremony.
- ❖ Posthumous diplomas and cap and gown will only be awarded to students who completed all graduation requirements prior to their death. Diplomas may be awarded at the public ceremony or at a private ceremony as requested by the family.

Awards/ Scholarships: The Mount Desert Island Regional School Department gratefully allows awards and scholarships memorializing deceased students to be presented to eligible students. Presentation of these awards and scholarships will be done during the awards night. If a student dies while enrolled at the school, any awards or scholarships will be presented by a school official of the family's choice for the time period that the student would have been enrolled at the school. Three years after what would have been that student's date of graduation or promotion, a family member may present the scholarship if they choose. Parents are encouraged to memorialize their child through a general alumni scholarship which will include the listing of their child's name in the scholarship booklet distributed at graduation.

Naming of buildings etc:

Only after 5 years since the time of the death of a student or staff member may the school board consider the naming of any school facility after that individual.

Use of School Facilities for Memorial Services: While we discourage the use of school grounds for funerals, requests for use of facilities may be made by a funeral director to accommodate anticipated number of participants.

First Reading: 05/08/06
Second Reading: 06/12/06
Adopted: 06/12/06