



Moment of Silence

Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, each Idaho public school is required to provide a 60-second moment of silence at the beginning of each school day. This requirement is based on the 2026 House Bill 623 becoming law. This notice will attempt to explain what students and families can expect at MMPCS during the 2026-2027 school year.

How will this look?

At the beginning of each school day, students will be given one minute of quiet time. A staff member will announce the beginning and end of the minute. Students will remain quiet and respectful during the 60 seconds.

Students may use the 60 seconds to:

- Reflect or gather their thoughts
- Meditate
- Pray silently
- Think about a goal for the day

The law does not require a specific activity during this time. However, it does ask that the 60-seconds be observed in silence.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is participation required?

The law requires each public school to provide 60-seconds as a moment of silence. Students are expected to remain respectful and non-disruptive, but they are NOT required to pray or participate in any specific activity.

Will teachers tell students what to think about or do?

NO. The law specifically states staff are not allowed to direct this activity. Staff will begin and end the

60-second period and maintain a respectful environment.

Can students choose not to pray?

YES. The moment must be student-directed.

Students may use this time for any silent activity permitted by law.

Can staff lead the activities?

NO. Staff may not lead nor guide activities during the 60-seconds of silence. This is specifically in the law.

What if a student talks, disrupts, or misbehaves during the 60-seconds of silence?

Students are expected to follow normal school expectations for respectful and non-disruptive behavior. Disruptive behavior may be addressed using regular classroom or school procedures.

Why are families being notified?

The Idaho law requires schools to notify parents and guardians of this new procedure. The expectation is that families discuss with their child(ren) how they would like to use this time. We encourage you to have thoughtful conversations with your child(ren) so best utilize this time.

Our commitment at Monticello: It is our expectation to implement this requirement in a respectful, inclusive manner consistent with Idaho law. We acknowledge our students and families have different beliefs, backgrounds, and perspectives.

Our staff will not tell students what to think, believe, or do during this 60-seconds of silence.