

Editorial

The Alltold

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Editorial Policy:
 The *Alltold* serves to supplement the educational environment of Mishawaka High School by providing an informative and entertaining source of news and communication to the students (our primary audience), faculty, staff, parents, and the community (our secondary audience). In addition the publication is committed to the conservation of fine, journalistic standards.

All unsigned editorials represent a majority vote of the Editorial Board which consists of all *Alltold* members and the adviser. Signed editorials, cartoons, and illustrations represent the viewpoint of the individual author or artist.

Letters to the Editor are welcome and encouraged. Letters must be signed and will be subject to verification by the Editorial Board. Names will be withheld upon request. The *Alltold* reserves the right to edit or shorten letters for space considerations provided the meaning of the letter is not altered. Letters containing what may be considered by the Editorial Board as obscene, libelous, irresponsible, or containing malicious content will not be accepted.

The *Alltold* reserves the right to refuse any merchant's advertising copy or ad which does not meet the standards set by the Publications Board. A copy of these standards will be made available upon request.

Advertising and letters may be delivered to room 262, Mr. Halicki's mailbox, or mailed to: The *Alltold*, Mishawaka High School, 1202 Lincoln Way East, Mishawaka, Indiana 46544. For more information you may call 574-254-7397.

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INDIANA



HIGH SCHOOL PRESS ASSOCIATION



The Pledge Makes Its Way Back into Schools

What the law says about the Pledge and a moment of silence



by **WES JOHNSON**
Editor-in-Chief

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DIGEST FOR EHB 1056

Citations Affected:
 IC 1-2-3-6; IC 20-10.1.

Synopsis: Conference committee report for EHB 1056. State and American flags; national motto; Pledge of Allegiance; moment of silence. Specifies that a worn out state flag should be disposed of in a dignified way. Authorizes a public school corporation to display the motto of the United States, "In God We Trust", in a conspicuous place in the main entrance of each building of the school corporation. Authorizes the display



of a United States flag and a state flag in each classroom of a school corporation and allows a school corporation to provide a daily opportunity for students to voluntarily recite the Pledge of Allegiance, with an exemption for those students who choose (or whose parents choose for them) not to participate. Allows a school corporation to establish the daily observance of a brief period of silence in each classroom. Provides that if the governing body of a school corporation has not established a policy concerning the Pledge of Allegiance or a period of silence, a principal or teacher may establish a policy. Repeals a current law allowing an optional brief period of silent prayer or meditation. **(This conference committee report removes language requiring the attorney general to defend all suits challenging the constitutionality of the display of the motto, the recitation of the Pledge, and the moment of silence.)**

Effective: Upon passage; July 1, 2003.

(All information above is according to <http://www.in.gov/legislative/bills/2003/SCCF/CC105601.001.html>)

Way back when we were all in elementary school, we recited the pledge

everyday. In elementary school certain classes were selected to recite the pledge along with the principal each day at the beginning of school. As the class of 2006 entered high school, the pledge just kind of disappeared from our daily routine. Then the first day of school of my senior year one of our administrators announced that we would be having a fifteen second moment of silence and would be saying the Pledge. It has become routine for most students here at Mishawaka, but there are some students that have chosen not to recite the Pledge with everyone else. As the law says, a student (or a student's parent) may decide if they should say the Pledge or not.

Many people that chose to not say the Pledge have that right and should not be talked about or harrassed. I do not know for a fact that this is going on here at Mishawaka, but it has to be going on somewhere.

In government class we had to do a board assignment that required us to write our feelings on why we thought it was important to say the Pledge at school. Many students including myself had no idea why we were saying the Pledge and having a moment of silence everyday.

Now that I know why we say the Pledge and have a moment of silence everyday, it isn't all that bad. The moment of silence could be for the victims of Hurricane Katrina or the troops overseas especially those America has lost during the Iraqi War.

Voice of the Students

Let your voice be heard. We are looking for letters to the editor expressing your opinions, views, and concerns. You may wish to comment on an article you read in the *Alltold*, or an issue the students and staff of MHS are facing. You may submit letters to the editor by visiting room 262. We look forward to hearing from you.

Maybe in order to understand mankind, we have to look at the word itself: "Mankind". Basically, it's made up of two separate words - "mank" and "ind". What do these words mean? It's a mystery, and that's why so is mankind.

- "Deep Thoughts" by: Jack Handy

Alltold Do you know the many M's of MHS?

Trivia:

