

RELIGIOUS CONTENT AND MATERIALS

1.0 General. The District considers the use of material such as sacred writings, music, art, and/or historic descriptions which have educational value to be an appropriate part of the curriculum provided that they are independent of positive or negative religious advocacy. However, the school curriculum is not a proper forum for religious worship, direct advocacy of religious belief or non-belief, or for belittlement of such belief or non-belief.

2.0 Classroom Instruction and School Programs. Instruction about religion in the regular classroom or in performances/presentations to students, parents, and/or patrons which is intended to help students become aware, understand, and/or appreciate human culture, history and/or religious diversity is permitted. Prior to preparation of any school-sponsored instruction or program which incorporates religious content, the sponsoring teacher shall meet with the building principal to discuss the content and purpose of the instruction or program. The principal must agree that the instruction or program is in compliance with this policy.

3.0 District Statement for School Program Extensions. The following statement be printed on all written programs and/or program announcements which may fall under the direction of this policy:

“The materials to be performed in this program have been selected for their educational value, including awareness and understanding of social and cultural traditions. The performance of materials with religious content is not intended and should not be understood as an endorsement by the School District or its employees of the religious content.”