

INSTRUCTION

2351

Freedom of Belief

The Board requires all District students and employees to:

- Respect the right of each individual to follow his/her own beliefs, as long as the beliefs do not infringe upon the rights of others or disrupt the educational process.
- Encourage all students and staff members to appreciate and be tolerant of each other's religious views; and
- Utilize educational opportunities to foster understanding and mutual respect among students, whether it involves race, culture, economic background, or religious beliefs.

District employees shall not promote or disparage any religious belief or non-belief.

Information about various religions may be made available to students as appropriate to the students' grade level and course of study. That information may include the role that religious heritages have played in the social, cultural, and historical development of our country and the civilization of the world. Any discussion or study of religion or other beliefs shall be offered in a fair and objective manner, consistent with learning objectives and free from sectarian influence.

The Superintendent or designee may excuse a student or employee from participating in activities that are contrary to their religious beliefs unless issues of overriding concern would prevent it.

Legal Reference: Idaho Constitution, Art. IX Section 6;
Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1965,
42 USC Section 2000e, *et seq.*
Section 1983 of the Civil Rights Act of 1871,
42 USC Section 1983

Policy History:

Adopted on: August 17, 2009

Revised on: