Instruction Regulation #6141.2

## RECOGNITION OF RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND CUSTOMS

Upon written request of the parent/guardian, a student shall be excused from any part of health, family life or sex education which conflicts with the religious training, beliefs, or personal moral convictions of the parent/guardian or student. (Education Code 51240)

(cf. 6142.1 - Family Life/Sex Education)

Alternate activities shall be provided for students who are so excused.

Staff shall make every effort to avoid scheduling examinations, school-sponsored trips, special laboratories, picture-taking days and class parties on established religious holidays.

## **Programs and Exhibits**

When school programs and exhibits are in any way related to instruction about religion or religious holidays, the following guidelines shall be observed:

- 1. The principal or designee shall ensure that school-sponsored programs are not, or do not have the effect of being, religiously oriented or a religious celebration.
- 2. The principal or designee shall participate in planning the program or exhibit and shall be kept informed of its development.
- 3. Program or exhibit planners shall take into consideration the diverse religious faiths represented in the community, student body and staff.
- 4. Students and staff whose beliefs prohibit their participation in a program shall be excused without penalty, and an alternate activity shall be provided for any such students.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

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