

SAYDEL COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

TEACHING ABOUT RELIGION

The school district is required to keep the practice of religion out of the school curriculum. The Board recognizes the key role religion has played in the history of the world and authorizes the study of religious history and traditions as part of the curriculum. Preferential or derogatory treatment of a single religion will not take place.

It will be the responsibility of the Superintendent to ensure the study of religion in the schools in keeping with the following guidelines:

- the proposed activity must have a secular purpose;
- the primary objective of the activity must not be one that advances or inhibits religion; and
- the activity must not foster excessive governmental entanglement with religion.

Legal Reference: U.S. Const. amend. I.
Lee v. Weisman, 112 S.Ct. 2649 (1992).
Lemon v. Kurtzman, 403 U.S. 602 (1971).
Graham v. Central Community School District of Decatur County, 608 F.Supp. 531 (S.D. Iowa 1985).
Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.6 (2013).

Cross Reference:	600	Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program
	603.4	Multicultural and Non-Sexist Education
	603.8R1	Teaching About Religion Regulation - Religious Holidays
	604.5	Religious-Based Exclusion from a School Program
	605.1	Instructional Materials Selection
	606.2	School Programs and Social Events

Approved: April 21, 1997

Reviewed: January 2017

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