

*Cultural Diversity in School Programs, Ceremonies and Observances*

The District recognizes that one of its educational goals is to advance the student's knowledge and appreciation of the social, cultural, religious, and historical development of civilization.

No religious belief or non-belief will be promoted or favored by the District or its employees, and none will be disparaged. The District will encourage all students and staff members to appreciate and be tolerant of each other. The District will foster understanding and mutual respect among diverse students, parents, staff members, community members and others by calling upon all persons to express their views and beliefs with sensitivity and respect. This approach applies whether the diversity involves race, culture, economic background or religious beliefs. In that spirit of tolerance, students and staff members may be excused from participating in practices which are contrary to their religious beliefs unless participation is required by law.

The District will comply with all laws and court rulings regarding the use of prayer.