

*Religion in the Curriculum*

Religious institutions and orientations are central to human experience, past and present. An education excluding such a significant aspect would be incomplete. It is essential that the teaching about--and not of--religion be conducted in a factually objective, balanced and respectful manner.

Therefore, the practice of the District shall be as follows:

1. The District supports the inclusion of religious literature, music, drama and the arts in the curriculum and school activities provided these are intrinsic to the learning experience in the various fields of study, represent selections from a variety of cultures, and are presented objectively.
2. The emphasis on religious themes in the arts, literature and history shall be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study of these areas. Such studies shall never foster any particular religious tenet or demean any religious belief or non-belief.
3. When students respond to questions or assignments in ways which reflect their beliefs or non-beliefs, they shall be accommodated unless there is compelling concern that would prevent such accommodation. For example, students are free to express religious belief or non-belief in compositions, art forms, music, speech and debate.