

## **Students**

### **Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance**

#### **Religious Observance**

A student shall be released from school, as an excused absence, for the purpose of observing a religious holiday. The parent(s)/guardian(s) must give written notice to the District five days before the student's anticipated absence.

The parent(s)/guardian(s)'s written notification of the student's anticipated absence shall satisfy the District's requirement for a written excuse when the student returns to school.

The Superintendent shall develop and distribute to teachers appropriate procedures regarding student absences for a religious holiday which include a list of religious holidays on which students shall be excused from attendance, how teachers are notified of a student's impending absence, and the State law requirement that teachers provide the student an equivalent opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirement.

#### **Religious Instruction**

A student shall be released from school for a day or portion of a day for the purpose of religious instruction. A letter, requesting the student's absence and written by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), must be given to the Building Principal at least five days before the day the student is to be absent.

LEGAL REF.: Religious Freedom Restoration Act, 775 ILCS 35/  
105 ILCS 5/26-1 and 5/26-2b.

CROSS REF.: 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

ADOPTED: October 10, 2017