

Procedures for Religious Observances

Requests

- Religious groups may request consideration from the District to recognize religious observances on school calendar days. For example, the Jewish community asked the District to recognize major religious holidays such as Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. In recognizing Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, the holidays begin at sundown the evening before the holiday and ends at sundown on the evening of the holiday.

Absences

- Absences will be excused and students shall be allowed to make up all work missed such as tests, major term papers, and significant class reports without penalty. The time allowed for making up tests or turning in assignments shall be equal to the number of school days or number of class meetings missed. Excused absences for religious observances will not interfere with achieving perfect attendance.

Schedules

- When the District recognizes religious observance requests, schools must not schedule parent meetings, concerts, plays, athletic events or any other important happenings on days of recognized religious observances.

School-District Calendar

- The religious observances recognized by the Board will be placed on the school district calendar. If a conflict occurs surrounding a unique one-time event, teachers and administrators should exercise sensitivity and flexibility in resolving them. The only potential exception for scheduling an event on recognized religious holidays or participating in an event scheduled by a third party is for one time events or events scheduled by a third party where students would not have another opportunity in the year to participate in the type of event scheduled. The scheduling or participation in one time events or events scheduled by a third party, if falling on a recognized religious holiday, should be approved by the Assistant Superintendent at least 4 weeks prior to the scheduled event.