

1 ABSENCES FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

2 ~~The~~ **It is the policy of the** Board ~~desires~~ to cooperate with those parents who wish
3 to provide for religious instruction for their children but also recognizes its
4 responsibility to enforce the attendance requirements set forth in the State-
5 mandated Student Progression Plan.

6 Upon receipt of a signed, written request from the parent/guardian or adult student,
7 the Board will grant permission and allow exceptions to the student's attendance at
8 school for religious instruction outside the school building by a religious group,
9 church, or denomination. The signed, written request shall include the following:

- 10 A. a statement attesting that the religious instruction is not provided at
11 a time that does not conflict with the student's attendance at school;
- 12 B. a statement of acceptance by the parent/guardian or adult student
13 for any liability that might arise as a result of the student's conduct
14 while on this release; and
- 15 C. a statement indemnifying and holding harmless the District and
16 District personnel for any liability arising from conduct by the
17 student that does not occur on property under the **District's** control

18 Upon receipt of the signed, written request and provided the religious group, church,
19 or denomination responsible for the religious instruction submits evidence, in
20 writing, of the student's registration for religious instruction, as well as written
21 weekly records documenting the student's attendance at such instruction for each
22 day of release, the student shall be considered to have an excused absence during
23 such release for religious instruction.

24 Prior to approving the request, the Principal shall confirm that the student is
25 enrolled in sufficient courses to allow for promotion or graduation and that the
26 student's grades are adequate for promotion or graduation.

27 The principal may terminate the student's permission **for non-attendance.** ~~to exit~~
28 ~~school for religious instruction for any attendance issues.~~ The parent/guardian or
29 adult student may appeal the Principal's decisions to terminate permission for the
30 student to be released for religious instruction to the Superintendent.

31 The religious instruction shall be the responsibility of the religious group, church, or
32 denomination and transportation shall be the responsibility of the parent/guardian,
33 adult student, or the religious institution.

1 No solicitation for attendance at religious instruction shall be permitted on District
2 premises. No staff member shall encourage or discourage participation in any
3 religious instructional program.

4 F.S. 1003.21

5 F.A.C. 6A-1.09514

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