

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM – Series 600

602 Programs of Instruction

602.15 Teaching About Religion

The school district is required to keep the practice of religion out of the school curriculum. The board recognizes the key role religion has played in the history of the world and authorizes the study of religious history and traditions as part of the curriculum. Preferential or derogatory treatment of a single religion shall not take place.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to ensure the study of religion in the schools in keeping with the following guidelines:

- the proposed activity must have a secular purpose;
- the primary objective of the activity must not be one that advances or inhibits religion; and
- the activity must not foster excessive governmental entanglement with religion.

Adoption Date: March 6, 2001

Review Date: April 13, 2009

Revision Date:

Legal References: U.S. Const. amend, I,
Lee v. Weisman. 112. S.Ct. 2649 (1992).
Lemon v. Kurtzman, 403 U.S. 602 (1971).
Graham v. Central Community School District of Decatur County, 608
F-Supp. 531 (S.D. Iowa 1985).
Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.6 (1995).

Cross References: 602 Programs of Instruction
603.9 Religious-Based Exclusion from a School Program
606.1 Public/Private School Relations