

INSTRUCTION

Administrative Procedures - Teaching About Religions

The following are guidelines for teaching about religions:

1. Instruction must be age appropriate to ensure that students will not believe the District is sponsoring religion.
2. Instruction may *expose* students to religious views, but may not *impose* any particular views.
3. Instruction must be *informational*, not *indoctrinational*.
4. Instruction must be *academic*, not *devotional*.
5. Instruction may *study* what people believe, but may not *teach* a student what to believe.
6. Instruction should strive for student *awareness* of a variety of religions, but should not press for student *acceptance* of any one religion.

Within the parameters of the academic study of religion, teachers may display objects, artifacts and symbols which give form to a variety of religious customs, beliefs, and expressions. Any classroom and school display presented as a part of religious study or holiday activities will meet the following criteria:

1. The display will be exhibited on a temporary basis.
2. The display will be constructed in a manner which presents no endorsement, favoritism, or promotion of a single religion or religious belief.
3. The display will include non-secular as well as secular symbols.
4. The display will include appropriate, descriptive labels attached to the symbols.

Individual student participation in the preparation of a religious study display or a religious holiday display is strictly voluntary. If the display is a class activity, the student who wishes not to participate may be given an alternative assignment.