

STUDENT ABSENCES FOR OBSERVANCE OF MAJOR RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

A. General Provisions Relating to Religious Observances

For any and all days of religious observance, the following shall apply:

1. Students absences for this reason shall be excused and shall be disregarded for the purposes of determining perfect attendance.
2. Ample and flexible accommodations shall be made to assist students in making up class work. They should be given sufficient time to do so with the expectation that they will be neither studying on those days.

It is also expected that these and other religious observances will be taken into consideration in a sensitive matter when scheduling ancillary activities such as school photographs, after school and evening programs, etc.

B. Provisions Relating to Specified Religious Observances

On days of major religious observance where school is in session and it is expected that significant numbers of students will be absent the following shall apply:

1. For students, there shall be no tests, quizzes or other such examinations scheduled and no projects and other such assignments due. Where appropriate to the holiday observance, this shall apply to the following day as well.

The religious observances to which these provisions apply are as follows:

- Rosh Hashanah*
- Yom Kippur*

(* Note that these observances begin the preceding evening.)

Other similar days of religious observances may be added to this list as they are identified.

The dates of these observances shall be duly noted as an integral part of the school calendar, and reminders shall be issued to staff sufficiently in advance of these dates that the intent of the policy can be carried out.

The Superintendent shall take note of religious observances when significant numbers of students are absent and shall periodically review the above list of religious observances and report to the Committee together with any recommended changes to the list.

Adopted: July 2006