

**STUDENTS****Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance**

A student shall be released from school, as an excused absence, to observe a religious holiday or for religious instruction. The student's parent/guardian must give written notice to the Building Principal at least 5 calendar days before the student's anticipated absence(s). This notice shall satisfy the District's requirement for a written excuse when the student returns to school.

The Superintendent, or designee, shall develop and distribute to teachers appropriate procedures regarding student absences for religious reasons and include a list of religious holidays on which a student shall be excused from school attendance, how teachers are notified of a student's impending absence, and the State law requirement that teachers provide the student with an equivalent opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirement.

LEGAL REF.: Religious Freedom Restoration Act, 775 ILCS 35/5.  
105 ILCS 5/26-1 and 5/26-2b.

CROSS REF.: 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

FIRST READING: June 20, 2007

ADOPTED: July 18, 2007