

STUDENT RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION

1. Religious Expression by Students

Students may pray or engage in religious activities before, during, and after the school day to the same extent that students may engage in nonreligious activities or expression.

2. Accommodation of Religion

A student or the student's parent's or guardian's religious beliefs will be accommodated where it is reasonable to do so and the accommodation will not impede or interfere with the rights of other students. The reasonableness of a requested accommodation will be determined by the student's principal.

3. Religious Clubs

Students may organize prayer groups, religious clubs, or other religious gatherings before, during, and after school to the same extent students are permitted to organize other noncurricular student groups, clubs, or gatherings before, during, and after school.

4. Disclaimer

A disclaimer may be provided by the school corporation indicating that any activity or expression by a student or students for religious reasons that occurs at the school during an activity sponsored by the school is neither sponsored nor endorsed by the school corporation.

5. Equal Access to School Facilities

All student groups shall have the same right of access to school facilities for meetings and school-based communication avenues regardless of the viewpoint of the student group or the content of the student group's message, consistent with the policies of the governing body with respect to student speech.

6. Dress Code

A student whose religious beliefs may be manifested in the wearing of clothing, accessories, or jewelry not otherwise permitted by the dress code, will be reasonably accommodated if the accommodation will not cause, or is not likely to cause, a substantial disruption of material interference with school purposes or impinge upon the rights of other students.

Students may wear clothing, accessories, and jewelry that display religious messages or contain religious symbols to the extent that students are permitted to wear clothing, accessories, and jewelry that display non-religious messages or contain non-religious symbols.

Speech or messages that are lewd, vulgar, or indecent or speech or messages that promote activities that are illegal for students are not permitted.

LEGAL REFERENCE: I.C. § 20-33-12

Adoption Date: September 25, 2018