

8810 RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

The Board of Education recognizes that the acknowledgment of religious holidays such as Christmas and Chanukah in the public school may be a source of community concern. It is a goal of the district educational program to teach mutual understanding and brotherhood and respect for group differences. In pursuing this goal, the educational program may recognize that various religious groups celebrate different holidays with different practices.

In the acknowledgment of any religious holiday, the Superintendent shall ensure that:

1. No worship or religious service of any kind is conducted whether or not conducted by a clergyman;
2. Religious exhibits or displays include only materials that are a necessary or integral part of the curriculum;
3. Any religious music played is selected primarily for its artistic content; and
4. Any acknowledgment of a religious holiday neither advances nor inhibits any particular religious sect or religion generally.

U.S. Consti., First Amendment
N.J. Consti., Art. 1, ¶4
N.J.S.A. 18A:36-16
N.J.A.C. 6:20-1.3(j)

Adopted: 17 October 2000

