

R 8810 RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

Teachers will accommodate pupils who are observing religious holidays. Issues related to religious observance or absences should be handled with sensitivity and tact. The district shall distribute annually a list of religious holidays, published by the Commissioner of Education, to administrators, faculty, and staff.

Individual Pupils

When a parent informs an administrator, in writing that his/her child will be observing a religious holiday or be absent for a religious holiday, then the following procedures will apply to that child:

1. No homework will be assigned for the period of the religious holiday.
2. No homework will be assigned on the weekend during which a pupil is celebrating a religious holiday.
3. No homework assignment or project will be due on the day after the religious holiday.
4. Pupils celebrating a weekend religious holiday or a religious holiday during the week will be exempt from tests or quizzes on the day they are out or on the day following the holiday. Tests or quizzes missed may be made up at another time.
5. Teachers will provide opportunities for pupils to makeup work that occurred during their absence and, where practicable, to make up activities that occurred during their absence.

District

When, based on pupil absentee records, a significant number of pupils will be absent on a religious holiday, the above guidelines will apply to all pupils. "Significant" - when historically the average absentee rate for the holiday in question is five percentage points higher than the district average daily attendance rate. The following will apply to all pupils:

1. No tests or quizzes will be given on the holiday in question.
2. Field trips and special school activities, e.g., pupil election, assemblies, programs, and other special activities will not be scheduled on the holiday in question.
3. Homework will not be due on the holiday in question.

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