



Code: **IGAC-AR**  
Revised/Reviewed: 4/06/78  
Revised/Readopted: 12/12/90; 5/28/14  
Orig. Code(s): 7810

## **Teaching About Religion**

The Board resolves that district schools shall conduct their curricular and co-curricular programs and provide ancillary services in accordance with the following:

1. While the public schools must remain neutral regarding religion, they should foster respect for each individual's convictions about religion and an understanding and respect for all religions in general;
2. Factual and objective teaching about religions is to be distinguished from the advocacy of religion;
3. Instruction in morality, ethics and values is encouraged; however, instruction shall not resort to partisan religious sanctions;
4. Bible reading for historical or literary instructional purposes is encouraged; however, where attendance is mandatory, Bible reading may not be used for devotional purposes or to influence religious beliefs;
5. Neither instructional materials (including films) nor required assembly programs shall be used to promote or encourage nonreligion, partisan religion, partisan religious viewpoints, religious groups or partisan religious activities;
6. Religious music as part of a secular program or concert shall be permitted. School choruses, bands, orchestras, etc., may accept invitations to perform at nonschool religious functions only on condition that any member of the groups may be excused at his/her request without penalty;
7. No public school funds shall be used to purchase an intended devotional display or religious symbols.