

## Religious Organizations

In order to protect the constitutional separation of church and state, the following guidelines are to be followed:

1. Religious leaders may visit the schools under the district policy that applies to all members of the public. Students will not be visited individually by religious counselors during the school day except in unusual circumstances and with administrative and parental/guardian<sup>1</sup> approval;
2. Members of the public may not come into the schools and mingle with students during the hours that schools are in session. Facilities will be made available to religious organizations on the same basis as other community organizations. Schools are not available to such organizations during school hours;
3. Activity period time cannot be allocated to outside religious leaders as such a practice would make those sessions appear to be school-sponsored activities;
4. Public school employees or other persons acting on behalf of the school shall not direct students in religious exercises or observances related to religious displays in the schools;
5. As district funds cannot be spent on religious activities, school facilities may be allowed for religious purposes only under the procedures for facility usage. Rates shall be charged or prorated accordingly;
6. Students may be released for religious instruction according to ORS 339.420. School facilities will not be provided for such religious instruction and school personnel shall not be involved other than as directed in policy JEFB.

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<sup>1</sup>As used in this document, the term parent includes legal guardian or person in a parental relationship. The status and duties of a legal guardian are defined in ORS 125.005(4) and 125.300 - 125.325. The determination of whether an individual is acting in a parental relationship, for purposes of determining residency, depends on the evaluation of those factors listed in ORS 419B.373. The determination for other purposes depends on evaluation of those factors and a power of attorney executed pursuant to ORS 109.056. For special education students, parent also includes a surrogate parent, an adult student to whom rights have transferred and foster parent as defined in OAR 581.015-0005(18).