

**Policy Concerning Dismissal from School for Religious Reasons**

**5301**

Parents are encouraged to request an excused absence for their child for purposes of religious instruction. Such requests may not be approved for more than once weekly. The principal shall determine in each case what is to be considered religious instruction. In general, instruction shall be by trained and not by lay personnel. Further, pupils may be excused to attend religious observances such as Yom Kippur and Good Friday. They will not be excused for non-instructional religious practices such as choir or rehearsal for a Christmas play.

Parents may request an excused absence if their religious beliefs conflict with classroom parties. Children may be excused from saluting the flag if religious beliefs indicate otherwise.

Adopted: Blue Hill School Committee - October 10, 1984