

Policies of the Board of Education

Series 300: Instruction

TEACHING ABOUT RELIGION

381.1

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution provides both freedom of religion and prohibition against the establishment of religion by the government. The Waunakee Community School District, as an agency of the government, will be neutral with respect to religion and will not engage in any activity that advocates or disparages religion. The Waunakee Community School District will treat the values of all religions -- within the education context -- in an open, forthright way, without advocating or disparaging any religious belief. For policy purposes, the term "religion" includes humanism and atheism as beliefs.

This policy is designed to achieve the following objectives:

1. To follow the spirit and letter of the First Amendment regarding individual freedom of expression for students and teachers, while maintaining neutrality toward all religions.
2. To avoid causing uncomfortable feelings on the part of children.

Legal Ref.: First Amendment, U. S. Constitution
Wisconsin Constitution, Article X - Section 3

Cross Ref.: 411, Equal Educational Opportunities
371, Student Equal Access to School Facilities

Adopted: 11/8/82

Revised: March 1994
January 2002

Waunakee Community School District