

## TEACHING ABOUT RELIGION

Religious belief and non-belief are matters of personal consideration rather than governmental authority. As a subdivision of government, Colorado Springs School District 11 (the District) shall observe neutrality in matters of religion, neither opposing nor promoting religion.

The importance of religion in history, literature, culture and the arts cannot be ignored and should have a place in education. The use of religious material which has an educational value, a secular purpose and a religiously neutral effect may be an appropriate part of the curriculum. However, the curriculum is not the proper forum for religious worship or celebration, advocacy of religious belief or non-belief, or the denigration of such belief or non-belief.

Ours is a pluralistic society in which a variety of religious beliefs and non-beliefs are held. Thus the District should foster among students, staff, parents and community respect for, mutual understanding of, sensitivity to, and tolerance of various religious beliefs and non-beliefs.

Adopted January, 1982  
Revised June, 1989  
Reviewed January, 2010  
Reviewed May 27, 2015

CROSS REFS.: IB, Academic Freedom  
IJJ, Instructional Resources and Materials Selection, Adoption, Acquisition, and Reconsideration  
IJL, Library Media Section, Adoption, Acquisition, and Reconsideration  
IMB, Teaching about Controversial/Sensitive Issues  
IMBB, Exemptions from Required Instruction  
JB, Equal Educational Opportunities  
JJA, Student Organizations  
KBE, Relations with Parent Organizations  
KEB, Public Concerns/Complaints about Personnel  
KEC, Public Concerns/Complaints about Instructional and Library Resources