

## **609.1 RELEASE TIME**

### **I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to identify and provide guidelines for Release Time activities during the school day.

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. The school district supports the inclusion of religious activities through Release Time in partnership with local ministerial groups.

### **III. GUIDELINES**

- A. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to ensure that Release Time activities are implemented, in conjunction and partnership with the local ministerial groups, for Park Rapids Area students and families to voluntarily participate in such activities.
- B. The Release Time program shall not result in any cost to the school; the operation of such programs shall be the sole responsibility of the ministerial groups.
- C. The superintendent will meet annually with ministerial leaders to assess current and future programming options and opportunities to meet the needs of the students, families, school, and ministerial groups.

**Legal References:** U.S. Constitution, First Amendment  
Minn. Stat. § 120A.35 (Absence From School for Religious Observance)

*Adopted: 10/2021*

*Revised:*