RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION RELEASE TIME [ISBA Code: 5541]

Students will be excused from school for religious instruction not to exceed two hours, including travel time, in any school week upon the written notice of the parent to attend religious instruction and said notice is valid only during the school year it is received.

Upon receipt of the written notice of the parent, the principal of the student's school and the entity providing the religious instruction shall work collaboratively to determine the periods the student will receive instruction, not to exceed two hours in a week, and to ensure the periods during which the student receives religious instruction are the least disruptive to the student's required instructional time.

The entity providing religious instruction shall keep attendance records on the public school student and such records shall be available for inspection by the public school attendance officer or designee.

A student who is released for religious instruction under this policy shall receive the same amount of attendance credit that the student would receive for attending the public school for instruction.

A secondary school student may not receive academic credits for the religious instruction the student receives under this policy.

Legal Reference: I.C. 20-33-2-19 Board Adopted: July 8, 2024