

## **COMMITMENT TO RELIGIOUS NEUTRALITY**

The Governor Wentworth Regional School Board understands that the administration, faculty, and staff must recognize students' First Amendment religious rights, subject to reasonable rules and regulations. The Board further recognizes that the United States Constitution's First Amendment imposes two equally important obligations on public schools.

First, schools must not forbid students acting on their own from expressing their personal religious views or beliefs. Second, schools may not endorse religious activity or doctrine and students may not be coerced by others to accept religious (or non-religious) activity or doctrine.

The Board acknowledges that schools may teach about religion, religious works of literature and art, and participate in discussions about religion but may not promote particular religious beliefs or activities.

All students should respect the individual religious choices and activities of other students.

**Legal References:**

*NH Constitution, Part I, Article 5*

*RSA 189:1-b, Freedom of Assembly, Freedom of Religion*

Adopted: 1/5/09

Revised: **6/5/2023**