

**ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES OF THE
MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY 8.15
RELEASED TIME FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION**

History: Revised 9-26-00

Previous Coding: Admin. Policy JEFB, prior to May 1995; Admin. Policy 10.15, May 1995-August 1996

Legal Ref.: W.S. 118.155

(1) State law provides that the Board is authorized to adopt a policy that permits students to be absent from school for the purpose of obtaining religious instruction under certain conditions. In accordance with s. 119.19, Stats., the Board shall permit a student to be absent from school during the school period for up to 180 minutes per week for the purpose of obtaining religious instruction outside the school, if the principal of the school regularly attended by the student has received the written permission of the parent or guardian of the student. A principal shall approve the periods for religious instruction requested by the parent or guardian of a student so long as the student's absence does not disturb the carrying out of the educational program offered by MPS to either the student participating in the religious instruction or any other MPS students.

(2) MPS may withdraw permission to be released from school for the purpose of receiving religious instruction if the principal does not receive a monthly report from the supervisor of the religious instruction verifying that the student actually attended the religious instruction during the period of absence. The Board shall not be responsible for transporting a student to or from the religious instruction and shall not be liable for a student who is absent from school.

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