## Neah-Kah-Nie School District 56

Code:

**IGAC** 

Adopted:

11/12/01

Readopted:

3/10/08; 6/08/15

Orig. Code:

INB

## **Teaching about Religion**

The Board recognizes that the public schools, as agents of government, must remain neutral toward religion and Schoolsmust be careful not to prefer one religion above another.

Teachers The Board does, therefore, resolve that the district shall be permitted to teach or present to students information concerning conduct their curricular and cocurricular programs and provide ancillary services in accordance with the following procedures:

- 1. While the public schools must remain neutral regarding religion, they should foster respect for each individual's convictions about religion and an understanding and respect for all beliefs in general;
- 2. Factual and objective teaching about religions and religious beliefs, but teachers to be distinguished from the advocacy of religion;
- 3. Instruction in morality, ethics and values is encouraged; however, instruction shall not resort to partisan religious sanctions;
- 4. Bible reading for historical or literary instructional purposes may be permitted as provided by law.

  Bible reading may not be used for devotional purposes or to influence religious beliefs;
- 5. Neither instructional materials, including films, nor required assembly programs shall be used to promote or inhibit, openly or covertlyencourage nonreligion, partisan religious viewpoints, religious groups or by subtlety,partisan religious activities;
- 6.1. Religious music as part of a particular religion, religious beliefsecular program or nonreligious belief.concert shall be permitted. School choruses, bands, orchestras, etc., may accept invitations to perform at nonschool religious functions only on condition that any member of the groups may be excused at his/her request without penalty;
- Students and staff members may No public school funds shall be excused from participating in programsused to purchase an intended devotional display or activities which are contrary to their religious symbols;
- 8. Religious baccalaureate services shall not be a required school activity nor be sponsored by the district;
- 9.2. A student's religious beliefs shall be honored by excusing him/her without penalty. at his/her parent's request from school attendance on official religious holidays. Also, upon a parent's request, school requirements will be modified to accommodate an individual student's religious beliefs;

**END OF POLICY** 

## Legal Reference(s):

ORS 332.107

ORS 336.035

U.S. Const. amend. I.
OR. CONST., art. I.
Kennedy v. Bremerton Sch. Dist., 142 S. Ct. 2407 (2022).