

PRESS PLUS ISSUE #108 NOVEMBER 2021

POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING FEBRUARY 18, 2022

LINCOLNWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT 74 \ SECTION 7 - Students \

Document Status: Draft Update

Students

7:80 Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance

Religious Observance

A student shall be released from school, as an excused absence, because of religious reasons, for the purpose of to observing a religious holiday, or because the student's religion forbids secular activity on a particular day(s) or time of day. The parent(s)/guardian(s) must give written notice 5 days prior to the student's anticipated absence.

~~The parent(s)/guardian(s)'s written notification of the student's anticipated absence shall satisfy the District's requirement for a written excuse when the student returns to school.~~ [PRESSPlus1](#)

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and distribute to teachers appropriate procedures regarding student absences for religious reasons ~~and include a list of religious holidays on which a student shall be excused from school attendance,~~ including how teachers are notified of a student's impending absence, and the State law requirement that teachers provide the student an equivalent opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirement.

Religious Instruction

A student shall be released from school for a day or portion of a day for the purpose of religious instruction. A letter, requesting the student's absence and written by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s), must be given to the Building Principal at least five days prior to the day the student is to be absent.

LEGAL REF.:

~~Religious Freedom Restoration Act, 775 ILCS 35/.~~

105 ILCS 5/26-1 and 5/26-2b.

775 ILCS 35/, Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

CROSS REF.: 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)

ADOPTED: September 7, 2017

REVISED:

REVIEWED: June 3, 2021

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/26-1, amended by P.A. 102-406. Schools cannot require students who are excused for religious reasons to submit a written excuse after returning to school. **Issue 108, November 2021**