EMPLOYEE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION

DGA (LOCAL)

An employee's participation in community, political, or employee organization activities shall be entirely voluntary and shall not:

- Interfere with the employee's performance of assigned duties and responsibilities.
- Result in any political or social pressure being placed on students, parents, or staff.
- Involve trading on the employee's position or title with the District

Use of District Facilities

Organizations representing professional, paraprofessional, or support employees may use District facilities with prior approval of the appropriate administrator. Other groups composed of District employees may use District facilities in accordance with policy GKD.

Prayer and Reading of Bible or Other Religious

Effective at the beginning of the 2026-2027 school year, every campus shall provide employees with an opportunity to participate in a period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text on each school day, before normal school hours, in accordance with administrative regulations.

As required by law, this period of prayer or reading of the Bible or other religious text is prohibited from being provided in the physical presence of, within the hearing of, or in another manner which would constitute an injury in fact within the meaning of the United States or Texas Constitution on a person for whom a signed consent form has not been submitted or for whom consent has been revoked as referenced in Tex. Educ. Code §§ 25.0823(b)(1) and 25.0823(c) and recited herein. The provision of a prayer or reading of the Bible or other religious text over a public address system is prohibited.

As required by law, a period of prayer or reading of the Bible or other religious text shall not be substituted for instructional time.

Consent Forms

As required by law, an employee who wishes to participate in the period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text must submit the following:

- A signed consent form provided by the District that includes an acknowledgement that the employee has a choice whether to participate in the period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text;
- 2. A statement that the employee has no objection to participating in or hearing of the prayers or readings offered during the period; and,

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3. An express waiver of the employee's right to bring a claim under state or federal law arising out of the adoption of this policy, including a claim under the First Amendment, Establishment Clause in the United States Constitution or a related federal law, releasing the District and District employees from liability for those claims brought in state or federal court.

As required by law, if the employee has not submitted a consent for or has revoked a previous consent form, no prayer or reading of the Bible or other religious text shall take place in the employee's physical presence, within the hearing of that employee, or in another manner that would constitute an injury in fact within the meaning of the United States or Texas Constitution.

This policy does not prohibit an employee of the district or school from participating in prayer or reading the Bible or other religious text during a period of the school day that is not designated as a period of prayer and reading of the Bible or other religious text.

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