

<b>Timberlane Regional School District</b>	<b>Policy Code: IHAL</b>
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## **TEACHING ABOUT RELIGION**

Religious education is the responsibility of the home and church, and within the District's schools shall remain the free choice of the individual, true to the American heritage and Constitution.

However, religion influences many areas of education, such as literature and history, and religion's role in civilization can, and should be, properly taught. Moreover, it is proper for teachers to emphasize the generally accepted moral and ethical principles of all religions and to provide the opportunity for students to study the forms of various religions. In other words, it is proper for teachers to teach about religion as opposed to teaching sectarian beliefs, although study of the Bible and other sacred documents as literary forms may inform students concerning particular sectarian beliefs.

Teachers shall be permitted to expose students to information concerning religions and religious beliefs, but teachers shall not advocate, openly or covertly or by subtlety, a particular religion or religious beliefs.

Teachers are encouraged to be aware of the greater cultural diversity that can exist today in our schools and adjust their education and celebrations accordingly. Arrangements should be made for the child who may not wish to participate in the education or celebration of a particular holiday(s).

Spiritual values are important in the development of a well-rounded individual, and development of well-rounded individuals is an encompassing goal of the District's educational program and activities.