

**REVISED POLICY - VOL. 16, NO. 2 - [NOTE: This policy is required by State law and the Florida Administrative Code.]**

ABSENCES FOR RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

It is the policy of the School Board that absences from school for observance of a religious holiday or because the tenets of a student's religion forbid secular activity during a school day or portion thereof shall be excused subject to compliance with this policy.

The Superintendent will maintain a list of religious holidays for which student absence will be excused.

Periodically, ( ) Annually, the Superintendent may consult with religious institutions and leaders in the community with regard to modification of the above list of religious holidays. The Board, however, is not bound by the information provided to the Superintendent by religious institutions and leaders.

The Superintendent shall establish procedures and time limits to be observed:

- A. by students, teachers, and administrators in making available to each student, so excused, an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work assignment which has been missed;

Deleted: \_\_\_\_\_

Deleted: ¶  
The following religious holidays for the 2015-2016/2016-2017 school year for which student absence will be excused:¶

- ¶
- A. August¶
- ¶
- 1. . August 1st¶
- ¶
- a. Fast in Honor of the Holy Mother of Lord Jesus (Eastern Orthodox Christian)¶
- ¶
- b. . Lammas (Christian and Wicca)¶
- ¶
- c. Lughnassad (Northern Hemisphere)/Imbolc (Southern Hemisphere) (Wicca Pagan)¶
- ¶
- 2. . August 6th - Transfiguration of the Lord (Eastern Orthodox Christian)¶
- ¶
- 3. August 13th - August 15th - Obon (Shinto)¶
- ¶
- 4. . August 15th¶
- ¶
- a. Dormition of the Theotokos (Eastern Orthodox Christian)¶
- ¶
- b. . Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Catholic Christian)¶
- Page Break-----
- ¶
- ¶
- ¶
- 5. August 29th¶
- ¶
- a. . Raksha Bandhan (Hindu)¶
- ¶
- b. Beheading of John the Baptist (Christian)¶
- ¶
- B. . September¶
- ¶
- 1. September 1st - Ecclesiastical Year begins (Orthodox Christian)¶
- ¶
- 2. . September 5th - Krishna Janmashtami - Hindu¶
- ¶
- 3. September 8th - Nativity of Mary (Christian)¶
- ¶

Deleted: \_\_\_\_\_

Deleted: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- B. by a student's parent(s) or guardian when giving prior notice of the student's intended absence; and
- C. when giving affected students and parents an opportunity to be heard in connection with the decision not to excuse an absence on a day or portion thereof which is not included in the above list of religious holidays.

F.S. 1003.21  
F.A.C. 6A-1.09514