

The School Board of Gadsden County

Bylaws & Policies

Unless a specific policy has been amended and the date of the policy was revised is noted at the bottom of that policy, the bylaws and policies of The School Board of Gadsden County were adopted on June 25, 2013, and were in effect beginning June 26, 2013.

2270 - RELIGION IN THE CURRICULUM

Based on the First Amendment protection from the establishment of religion in the schools, no devotional exercises or displays of a religious character will be permitted in the District in the conduct of any program or activity under the jurisdiction of the School Board. Instructional activities shall not be permitted to advance or inhibit any particular religion or religion generally.

An understanding of religions and their effects on civilization is essential to the thorough education of young people and to their appreciation of a pluralistic society. To that end, curriculum may include instruction about religions of the world, as appropriate to the various ages and attainments of the students.

Although the Board recognizes that religious traditions vary in their perceptions and doctrines regarding the natural world and its processes, the curriculum is chosen for its place in the education of the District's students, not for its conformity to religious principles. The Board expects students to receive unbiased instruction in the schools so they may privately accept or reject the knowledge thus gained, in accordance with their own religious tenets.

No classroom teacher shall be prohibited from providing reasonable periods of time for programs of meditation upon a moral, philosophical, or patriotic theme. No student shall be required to participate in such programs or meditations if they are contrary to the religious convictions of the student or his/her parents or guardians.

F.S. 1003.45

U.S. Constitution Amendment 1

© Neola 2004