

## Van Buren County Board of Education

Monitoring:  <b>Review: Annually, in December</b>	Descriptor Term:  <h3 style="text-align: center;">Religious Content of Courses</h3>	Descriptor Code: <h3 style="text-align: center;">4.804</h3>	Issued Date: <h3 style="text-align: center;">08/11/16</h3>
		Rescinds: <h3 style="text-align: center;">4.804</h3>	Issued: <h3 style="text-align: center;">06/17/99</h3>

1 Educational content which consists of religious themes shall be presented in a factual, objective, and  
 2 respectful manner in accordance with the following guidelines:

- 3       1. Religious themes may be a part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs  
 4           provided it is essential to the learning experience in the various fields of study and is presented  
 5           objectively;
- 6       2. The inclusion of religion shall be for educational purposes only;<sup>1</sup>
- 7       3. The emphasis on religious themes should be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and  
 8           comprehensive study of the curriculum. Such studies shall never be used to proselytize, establish,  
 9           foster, or demean any particular religion, religious tenets, or beliefs; and<sup>1</sup>
- 10      4. Student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments which reflect their beliefs or non-  
 11          beliefs about a religious theme shall be accommodated.

---

Legal References

1. Public Acts of 2016, Chapter No. 660

---

Cross References

- Basic Curriculum Program 4.201  
 Staff Rights & Responsibilities 5.600