

Lakeland Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in November	Descriptor Term: <h2 style="text-align: center;">Religious Content of Courses</h2>	Descriptor Code: <h3 style="text-align: center;">4.804</h3>	Issued Date: <h3 style="text-align: center;">06/13/16</h3>
		Rescinds: <h3 style="text-align: center;">4.804</h3>	Issued: <h3 style="text-align: center;">04/14/14</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;¹
- 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 not be used to proselytize or establish
 9 any particular religion or religious beliefs; and¹
- 10 4. Student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments which reflect their beliefs or non-
 11 beliefs about a religious theme shall be accommodated. For example, students are free to express
 12 religious belief or non-belief in compositions, art forms, music, speech and debate.

Legal References

1. Public Acts of 2016, Chapter No. 660

Cross References

- Basic Curriculum Program 4.201
 Staff Rights & Responsibilities 5.600