Release Time For Religious Instruction

Any student may be excused from school to participate in religious instruction for not more than one class period each school day at a time period not in conflict with the academic program of the school in accordance with the following procedure. *The District administration will use a form for Request for Release Time which includes the following criteria and such other information as is appropriate for administration of this policy.

1. The parent or legal guardian of the student shall provide a written consent to the principal of the school in which the student is enrolled prior to the student’s release. The parent or legal guardian shall identify and include the address and telephone number of the person to whom the student shall be released if other than the parent or legal guardian, and shall be responsible for assuring that the requested release period does not conflict with the student’s academic schedule. By signing the Request for Release Time consenting to the student’s release for religious instruction, the parent or legal guardian also agrees to assume all responsibility for the released student and to waive any claim against the Board and District arising from or relating acts or occurrences involving the student during the release period, including but not limited to tort claims and claims for failure to provide an appropriate instructional program.

2. The parent or legal guardian shall be responsible for arrangements to transport the student to or from the school during the release time.
3. Except for the period of release time, the student shall comply with and be subject to all District policies including the District and school site’s attendance policies.

4. No religious instruction shall be conducted on school property or by any employee or member of the Board.

5. The District shall not incur any cost or expense in connection with any release for religious instruction.

*Pursuant to NMSA §22-13-3 and Policies 300, 305, 310, 315

Rio Rancho Public Schools
Adopted: April 24, 2000