



Religious and Holiday Policy

Because of the diversity of religious beliefs represented in the Technology Leadership High School community, the following guidelines apply:

- The concepts of joy, giving, camaraderie, understanding, and sharing should not be negated for any child by holiday practice.
- Instructional materials used should neither advance nor inhibit a particular religious belief. The sacred literature of all faiths may be studied only for its historical, artistic, cultural, literary or other secular importance.
- Holiday activities are permissible, but should have a strong instructional/curriculum tie and should not be drawn out over excessive periods of time.
- Classroom/schools should be "religion neutral" (neither promoting nor inhibiting religious beliefs) so as to assure comfort to all students.
- Religious symbols of any denomination should be used only when teaching about religious beliefs and only for brief periods of time during the course of instruction.
- When a symbol has both a cultural and religious significance, it should be considered a religious symbol and be dealt with according to this Policy.
- Religious exhibits, music or display of religious objects or symbols may be permissible only if they are used as learning materials.
- Student initiated inquiry and/or activities related to religious issues and ceremonies should be handled according to this Policy.
- In case of conflict with the School calendar, students shall be allowed excused absences to observe religious holidays and reasonable accommodation made.

The School shall not conduct or sanction any invocations, benedictions, or formal prayers at any school-sponsored activities.