Instruction

Acknowledgment of Religious Holidays

The practice of the Blair Community Schools shall be as follows:

1. The several holidays through the year which have a religious and a secular basis may be observed or recognized in the public schools.

2. The historical and contemporary values and the origin of religious holidays may be explained in an unbiased and objective manner without sectarian indoctrination.

3. Music, art, literature and drama having religious themes or basis are permitted as part of the curriculum for school sponsored activities and programs if presented in a prudent and objective manner and as a traditional part of the cultural and religious heritage of the particular holiday.

4. The use of religious symbols such as a cross, menorah, crescent, Star of David, creche, symbols of Native American religions or other symbols that are a part of a religious holiday is permitted as a teaching aid or resource provided such symbols are displayed as an example of the cultural and religious heritage of the holiday and are temporary in nature. Among these holidays included are Christmas, Easter, Passover, Hanukkah, Ramadan, Thanksgiving and Halloween.

Legal Reference: *Florey v. Sioux Falls School District 49-5,* 619 F.2d 1311 (8th Cir. 1980)

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