

## CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULATION

6113.2

### SECTARIANISM, RELIGIOUS FREE SPEECH AND RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

- I. No public school funds shall in any way be used to benefit sectarianism and no books or papers of a sectarian or denominational character may be used to promote a particular religion or sect.
- II. Clark County School District employees shall not promote nor permit the promotion of sectarianism within the schools.
- III. Student initiated non-school sponsored religious speech is acceptable in the public schools in the same manner as other free speech.
- IV. School officials may not mandate or organize prayer at graduation or other extracurricular activities or select speakers for such events in a manner that favors religious speech such as prayer. Where students or other private graduation speakers are selected on the basis of genuinely neutral, evenhanded criteria and retain primary control over the content of their expression, however, that expression is not attributable to the school and, therefore, may not be restricted because of its religious (or anti-religious) content. To avoid any mistaken perception that a school endorses student or other private speech that is not in fact attributable to the school, school officials may make appropriate, neutral disclaimers to clarify that such speech is not school sponsored.
- V. Religious holidays may be observed only to the extent that such observances interpret the customs and traditions of a culture and may not provide opportunities for religious indoctrination. Songs and customs commonly accepted in the American way of life, even though such songs and customs may have been of a religious nature, are considered to be cultural traditions.
- VI. Care should be taken not to schedule major examinations or significant single event student activities on major religious holidays.
- VII. Administration will see that this information is disseminated and understood.

Legal Reference: NRS Chapter 388 System of Public Instruction, Section 150  
Review Responsibility: Instruction Unit  
Adopted: [6115.2: 7/11/63]  
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