

Policy — 2341

Instruction

### Religion and the Curriculum

The board recognizes the role that religion has played in the various societies of the world. The United States, through the First Amendment, has separated the role of the government and religion. Religious belief and disbelief are matters of personal consideration rather than of governmental authority. Therefore, the school district must be neutral in matters of religion, neither opposing nor promoting religion in general or any particular religion.

History, sociology, literature, the arts and other disciplines taught in school may have a religious dimension. Study of these disciplines, including the religious dimension, shall give neither preferential nor disparaging treatment to any single religion or to religion in general and must not be introduced or utilized for devotional purposes.

Criteria used to guide academic inquiry in the study of religion shall seek the same neutrality, objectivity and educational effectiveness expected in other areas of the curriculum.

Adoption Date:	First Reading:	November 1994
	Second Reading:	January 1995