

**BOARD POLICY**

**Descriptive Code: AEAB**

**RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS**

**Date: August 10, 1999**

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The Columbia County Board of Education recognizes the role of religion in the personal and social life of the individual employees and students. Religious instruction shall not be conducted within the school day. This instruction is left to the parent and the church outside the school day as prescribed by the laws of Georgia.

The employees and students of the school system may be temporarily excused from the school in observance of special and recognized holidays normally observed by their religion. The request must be in writing in advance of the religious holiday and must be approved by the Superintendent or designee. Student requests must be from parent or guardian.

The employees must take personal leave or leave without pay.

The students must be counted as an excused absence if away from school more than 1/2 day.

**CROSS REF.: JBD - Absences and Excuses**

**PROCEDURE: NO**

**ADOPTED: 12/13/88**

**REVISED: 10/1/97**

**Columbia County Board of Education**