

**West Linn-Wilsonville  
School District 3J**

Code: **IGAC**  
Adopted: 9/10/07  
Readopted: 3/07/16  
Readopted: 1/8/18  
Orig. Code(s): IGAC

## **Teaching about Religion**

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution provides both freedom of religion and prohibition against the establishment of religion by the government. Religious education is the responsibility of the home and church and within the district's schools shall remain the free choice of the individual, true to the American heritage and Constitution.

Religion does influence many areas of education such as history and literature and religion's role in civilization can, and should be, properly taught. It will be proper for teachers to emphasize the generally accepted moral and ethical principles of all religions and to provide information and the opportunity to study the various forms of religion. It is proper for teachers to teach about religion as opposed to teaching sectarian beliefs, although study of religious materials and sacred documents as literary forms may inform students concerning particular sectarian beliefs.

Teachers shall not, openly or covertly, favor or disfavor a particular religion or religious belief, but may be permitted to expose students to information concerning religions and religious beliefs.

END OF POLICY

---

**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 332.107](#)  
[ORS 336.035](#)

U.S. CONST. amend. I.  
OR. CONST., art. I.