

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Consent Item
March 26, 2010

SUBJECT: Approval of Amendment to Rule 6A-1.09514, Excused Absences for Religious Instruction or Holiday

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

For Approval

AUTHORITY FOR STATE BOARD ACTION

Chapter 120, Florida Statutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 1003.21(2)(b), Florida Statutes, states “Each district school board, in accordance with rules of the State Board of Education, shall adopt a policy that authorizes a parent to request and be granted permission for absence of a student from school for religious instruction or religious holidays.” The statute applies to all grade levels, but the current State Board Rule is written such that it only applies to grades 9-12.

The purpose of this rule amendment is to align the State Board Rule with Florida Statute to apply to all grade levels

Supporting Documentation Included: Proposed Rule 6A-1.09514, Excused Absences for Religious Instruction or Holiday

Facilitators: Dr. Frances Haithcock, Chancellor, Division of Public Schools and Mary Jane Tappen, Deputy Chancellor for Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Services

6A-1.09514 Excused Absences for Religious Instruction or Holiday.

(1) Release time during the school day to participate in religious instruction. Each school district which chooses to permit release time during the school day for students to participate in religious instruction shall adopt rules to implement Section 1003.21(2)(b), Florida Statutes, ~~for students in grades 9 through 12~~. The school district's rules shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1)(a) - (4) No change.

Rulemaking Specific Authority 1001.02(1), 1003.21(2)(b), 1001.64 FS. Law Implemented 1003.21, 1003.436, 1006.33 FS. History—New 10-17-89.