

## **7.181 RELEASED TIME FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION**

The Franklin Local School District Board of Education authorizes students to be excused from school to attend released time courses in religious instruction for at least one period per week, provided each of the following applies:

- The student's parent or guardian gives written consent;
- The sponsoring entity maintains attendance records and makes them available to the District;
- Transportation to and from the place of instruction, including transportation for students with disabilities, is the complete responsibility of the sponsoring entity, parent, guardian, or student;
- The sponsoring entity makes provisions for and assumes liability for the student;
- No public funds are expended, and no public school personnel are involved in providing the religious instruction; and
- The student assumes responsibility for any missed schoolwork.

Students in elementary or middle school may attend religious instruction up to two periods in total per week. Students in high school may attend religious instruction up to the amount of time that is equivalent to attending two units of high school credit per week.

While in attendance in a released time course in religious instruction, a student will not be considered absent from school. No student may be released from a core curriculum subject course to attend a religious instruction course.

The Board of Education, its members, and employees are immune from liability for injury allegedly arising during a student's transportation to or from a place of released time for religious instruction.

A student may earn up to two units of high school credit for the completion of a released time course in religious instruction. In accordance with R.C. 3313.6022, the Board shall determine whether to award credit for completion of such a course using similar secular criteria as for the evaluation of courses for students transferring from nonpublic schools.

Legal Ref: Ohio Revised Code 3313.6022

Adopted: March 26, 2025

Revised \_\_\_\_\_