

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

POLICY

It is the policy of the Board of Education of Valley Stream Union Free School District Twenty-four ("the District") to assure that all religious beliefs and practices are treated with respect. The public schools will provide instruction in a non-sectarian manner while recognizing that there are cultural and moral values in the histories of the various religions and that they are a proper subject for recognition in our educational program. The following policy statements shall be adhered to in the District:

- 1) A historical presentation without doctrinal implications shall be prepared and read in each classroom at a separate and appropriate time to coincide as closely as possible with the actual calendar dates.
- 2) No child shall be obliged to participate in any program that is contrary to the religious beliefs and teachings of the home.
- 3) No religious symbols shall be displayed either in the classroom or in the school building.
- 4) Traditional songs and music suitable to the occasion may be included in the program, but there shall be no interpretation of the lyrics.
- 5) No play shall have any religious or sectarian connotation. All plays selected must have the approval of the Superintendent of Schools, or designee.

Board of Education

Adopted: November 20, 1958
Revised: January 26, 1995
Revised: March 24, 2010