

# IMDC - Performing Arts Programs

Our nation's history is rich with embracing religious holidays as part of our cultural heritage. In a nation as diverse as America, we have the unusual opportunity to integrate appropriate levels of study and celebration of holiday celebrations that are rooted in our tradition. We acknowledge the strict provision for separation of church and school in regards to the school's responsibility to refrain from support of any particular doctrine and celebratory events will never be used to inculcate religious beliefs.

Therefore, it is the policy of Regional School Unit 1 (RSU 1) to support a balanced approach to all holiday celebrations, musical events, plays and other related school activities and classroom activities. The school principal, in concert with the school staff, will make appropriate decisions about holiday celebrations that best relate to the provisions of this policy. Parental concerns are to be addressed to the school principal and then to the school superintendent.

Legal References: Title 1 MRSA Section 111-A-118 *Florey v. Sioux Falls School District* 619 F.2d 1311, 1319, (8th Cir. 1980). *Clever v. Cherry Hill Township Board of Education*, 838 F. Supp. 929 (D.N.J. 1993).

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