

2005 7460
Students

SUBJECT: CONSTITUTIONALLY PROTECTED PRAYER IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

In accordance with the most recent Guidance Document issued by the U.S. Department of Education implementing the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, the Board affirms the responsibilities of the District, consistent with applicable statutory/case law pertaining to the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, to allow students and staff to engage in constitutionally protected prayer within the District schools.

Accordingly, no Board policy shall prevent, or otherwise deny participation in, constitutionally protected prayer in District schools, consistent with the Guidance Document and applicable law as enumerated above.

The Board rescinds any other policy that may be inconsistent with the mandates of this policy, which shall supersede any and all Board policies to the contrary.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965,
Section 9524, as amended by the No Child Left Behind
Act of 2001
United States Constitution, First Amendment
Equal Access Act,
20 United States Code (USC) Sections 4071-4074

NOTE: Refer also to Policy #8360 -- Religious Expression in the Instructional Program