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PRIMARY SCHOOL - HOOFWEG - PRIMAÛRE SKOOL



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7579

C/O WATERBLOM & MAIN

WEST BANK / KUILS RIVER
7580

POLICY: RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE POLICY

INTRODUCTION

- The different religions in our country are recognized by the Constitution of South Africa (Act no. 108 of 1996) as well as Section 7 of the South African Schools Act, no. 84 of 1996.
- These laws protect each individual against any form of discrimination on grounds of religion.
- School Governing Bodies also have permission to determine the nature of religious celebrations, provided that such celebrations take place in a fair manner and that attendance is free and voluntary for the learners and staff.

AIM

- As we are in a democratic dispensation, religious tolerance is promoted and encouraged in our school without offending anybody.
- A further aim of religion is to determine the way or method of religious observation.

VISION

The staff, learners and parents should have the necessary respect for any religion other than their own.

OBSERVABLE RELIGIONS

The school should observe and exercise the following officially regarding religions and denominations:

1. The inclusion of all religions and denominations.
2. When religious assemblies are held at the school, different preachers, priests, ministers, evangelists, pastors, etc. should be invited to lead the assembly.
3. Christian principles should be applied without discrimination against other religions.
4. No religious principle should be forced on any learner, educator, or parent.
5. All religions' festivals should be respected and observers of religions should be given the opportunity to participate in such celebrations.
6. Any parent, educator and learner has the right to lodge a complaint at the School Governing Body if any of these parties feel their religious principles are being discriminated against or not respected.
7. The beginning of the school year and terms and the end of the school year should be marked in a religious way that is acceptable to all.
8. Assemblies will be held on a bi-weekly basis (schedule to be provided on planner) in the school hall, and should be started and/or ended with a communal prayer by the learners and educators. Each educator should say grace together with the learners before receiving and enjoying their food during the first interval.

9. Non-teaching staff, the School Governing Body and parents are welcome to attend the religious assembly in the hall at the beginning of each school year and school week, but non-teaching staff should arrange the assembly each morning.
10. Any recognized preacher or other volunteer may be invited to lead religious assemblies.
11. All other gatherings arranged by the school may be opened and closed with a prayer.
12. Educators should pray every morning during the week except on Monday mornings on a rotation basis.

PROMOTION OF TOLERANCE

The school tries to promote tolerance and understanding amongst learners from different religious groups in the following ways:

- religious observations;
- no discrimination against learners or educators;
- example of educators;
- weekly assemblies with reading from Scriptures, message and singing of religious songs; and
- leaders of religious institutions are invited to participate in the assemblies.

This policy has been adopted:

Date

WESBANK, KUILSRIVER
Place

SGB MEMBERS:

PRINCIPAL:

CHAIRPERSON (SGB):
