



THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

JOEL I. KLEIN, *Chancellor*

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR
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TO: Senior Leadership Team, School Support Organizations, Community Superintendents, Superintendent of District 75, Superintendent Of Alternative High Schools And Programs, Integrated Service Center Executive Directors, Principals

FROM: Kathleen Grimm
Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration

SUBJECT: Released Time Program for Religious Instruction: Schedule for School Year 2007-2008

DATE: August 6, 2007

ABSTRACT

Pursuant to Chancellor's Regulation A-630, "a student shall be released for the last hour of the instructional day on Wednesdays to participate in a program of religious instruction." This memorandum indicates the start and end dates of the Released Time Program for Religious Instruction and the exceptions to that schedule for the 2007-2008 school year.

1. Scheduled Start and End Dates and Citywide Exceptions

In accordance with Chancellor's Regulation A-630, Principals shall release a student for religious instruction upon receipt, from the parent, of a written request to authorize the release and of a copy of the student's registration in the religious instruction program. For school year 2007-2008, the Released Time Program for Religious Instruction is scheduled for every Wednesday from **Wednesday, September 12, 2007** to **Wednesday June 18, 2008**, except as follows:

	<u>Which Students Not to Release</u>	<u>Rationale for Not Releasing</u>
1.1 September 12, 2007	Students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths	Religious instruction programs have not yet started for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths
1.2 September 19 & 26, 2007	Students of the Protestant faith	Religious instruction programs for students of the Protestant faith start on October 3
1.3 November 21, 2007	Students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths	No religious instruction programs for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths
1.4 March 19, 2008	Students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths	No religious instruction programs for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths

1.5	March 26, 2008	Students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths	No religious instruction programs for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths
1.6	June 18, 2008	Students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths	No religious instruction programs for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths

2. Reporting Requirements

In order for the ATS system to appropriately reflect the Released Time Program attendance data, please ensure that **Reason Code 56** (Present, Released for "Religious Instruction – Part of the Day") is properly entered for students.

For additional information, please contact the Office of Attendance at (212) 374-6095.

3. Additional Information

For additional information regarding Released Time for Religious Instruction, please refer to Chancellor's Regulation A-630, entitled "Religious Accommodation of Students."

