THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
JOEL I. KLEIN, *Chancellor*

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR
52 Chambers Street - New York, NY 10007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional Superintendents, Local Instructional Superintendents, Superintendent of District 75, Senior Superintendent of Alternative High Schools and Programs, Chief Academic Officer for New Schools, Directors of Regional Operations Centers, Directors of Student Placement, Youth and Family Support Services, Heads of Divisions and Offices, Principals of All Day Schools, UFT Chapter Leaders, PTA/PA Presidents, and UFT, CSA, and DC 37 District Representatives

FROM: LaVerne Srinivasan
Deputy Chancellor for Operations

SUBJECT: Released Time Program for Religious Instruction: Schedule and Reporting Requirements for School Year 2005-2006

DATE: August 22, 2005

ABSTRACT

The schedule and reporting requirements for the Released Time Program for Religious Instruction are issued each year. The following reflects this information for the 2005-2006 school year.

1. **Scheduled Start and End Dates and Citywide Exceptions**

The opening date for the Released Time for Religious Instruction Program for the 2005-2006 school year is **Wednesday, September 14, 2005**. The Program is scheduled to continue on every Wednesday through **Wednesday June 21, 2006**, subject to the following exceptions.

1.1	September 14	Religious instruction programs have not started yet for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths	No Released Time Program for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths
1.2	September 21 & 28	Religious instruction programs for students of the Protestant faith start on October 12	No Released Time Program for students of the Protestant faith on September 21 and 28
1.3	October 5, 2005	Schools closed on Rosh Hashanah	No Released Time since New York City Schools are closed
1.4	November 23, 2005	Thanksgiving Eve (No religious instruction program for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths)	No Released Time Program for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths

1.5	December 28, 2005	Winter Recess	No Released Time since New York City Public Schools are closed
1.6	February 22, 2006	Mid-Winter Recess	No Released Time since New York City Public Schools are closed
1.7	April 12, 2006	No religious instruction program for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths	No Released Time Program for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths
1.8	April 19, 2006	Spring Recess	No Released Time since New York City Public Schools are closed
1.9	June 14, 2006	No religious instruction program for students of the Roman Catholic faith	No Released Time Program for students of the Roman Catholic faith
1.10.	June 21, 2006	No religious instruction program for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths	No Released Time Program for students of the Roman Catholic and Protestant faiths

2. **Reporting Requirements and Additional Information**

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.

Guidelines for the Released Time Program for Religious Instruction are included in Regulation of the Chancellor No. A-630, which is available on the DOE web site (from the Home Page, which can be accessed at http://www.nycenet.edu/, click on "Links to Commonly Requested Sites and Documents," then click on "Chancellor's Regulations ").

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