

RELEASE TIME

Board Policy

The Shelley Joint School District No. 60 permits release time programs and activities for students within the district consistent with the law and district policy.

Suggested Implementation Guidelines

1. Release time programs for students in kindergarten through grade eight (K-8) will be reviewed as may be requested, and permitted only at the discretion of the Board of Trustees.
2. Students in grades nine through twelve (9-12) may be excused from school for a period not exceeding five (5) periods each week and not exceeding one hundred sixty-five (165) hours during any one school year as shown in Idaho Code 33-519.
 - a) A parental release form signed by the parent/guardian must be on file in the school office, which will become part of the student's permanent record.
 - b) The release form must be received prior to the student being permitted to leave school grounds to attend the release time program.
 - c) The school will develop and maintain a record of the daily schedule of the student including those times when the student is released for classes in religious education or for other purposes.
 - d) The Board of Trustees shall have reasonable discretion over release time scheduling which may not interfere with scheduling of district classes, programs and activities.
3. District and State of Idaho minimum graduation requirements shall not be reduced for those participating in release time.
4. The decision of any student to participate in released time must be purely voluntary, and registration for release time programs must not occur on school premises.
5. At the discretion of the Board, credit may be granted for non-religious release time programs.
 - a) No credit may be granted for release time activity completion that is for religious purposes.
6. Public school facilities, personnel or equipment may not be used for religious instructional purposes.
7. Attendance records, which benefit release time classes for religious instruction, must not be kept by the school or school district.

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8. Release time program personnel are not school district employees and will not be requested to participate as faculty members in any school function or assume responsibilities for any part of the district's educational program.
9. The release time programs are responsible for all control, discipline and attendance of those released and is also responsible for any injury, act or event occurring while the student is involved in a release time program.
10. The district and any of its schools are not liable or responsible for the health, safety, and welfare of students while they are:
 - a) traveling to and from a release time program.
 - b) participating in the release time program.

Revised: August 24, 2000