

Release Time Guidelines

Mackay School District #182

The 1991 legislature passed a law allowing parents to have one period per day granted for whatever purpose the parent chooses to enhance the education of the child. This may be “for the religious instruction or for other purposes.” However, some conditions apply and must be followed. They include:

1. At its discretion, this district may permit release time programs for kindergarten through grade eight (K-8).
2. Students in grades nine through twelve (9-12) may be excused from school for a period not exceeding five (5) periods in each week ~~and or~~ not exceeding one hundred sixty-five (165) hours during any one school year.
3. The board shall have reasonable discretion over the scheduling and time of the release time. Release time programs may not interfere with the scheduling of classes, activities, and programs in this district.
4. This district will maintain a record of each student’s daily schedule that indicates when a student is released for classes in religious education or for other purposes.
5. Participation in release time shall not reduce the minimum graduation requirements.
6. No credit shall be awarded by this district for completion of courses during release time for religious purposes.
7. At the discretion of the board, credit may be granted for release time activities that are not religious in nature. Factors which may be considered include, but are not limited to, the credentials for the instructor, the number of hours of instruction, and the availability of similar instruction in the public school.
8. No public school facilities, personnel, or equipment may be utilized, nor will attendance records for the benefit of release classes for religious instruction be provided.
9. Registration for release time programs will not occur on school premises.

10. Release time program staff are not employees of this district and will not be asked to participate as faculty members in any school functions nor will they be asked to assume responsibilities for operation of any part of this district’s education program.
11. This district is not liable for any injury, act, or event occurring while the student participates in a release time program.
12. This district will not be liable or responsible for the health, safety, and welfare of students while they are being transported to and from participating in release time programs.

REQUEST

I, _____, parent/legal guardian of
_____, a student in grade _____ at Mackay
Jr./Sr. High School, hereby request that he/she be released from regular school programs each
day during _____ period for my student to _____.

By signing this form, I further attest that I have read the conditions above and understand them.

Parent Signature

Date

Telephone Number