



Subject: Dismissal for Religious Observance

To whom it may concern,

_____ is the parent of _____ who is a student in the _____ grade in your school. This letter is a formal notice that _____ will need to be excused from class at _____ pm on Fridays to attend our service. The Friday prayer also known as Jummah in Islam is similar to the Saturday Shabbat for Jews and Sunday Church Service for Christians.

Custom allows our Jewish and Christian neighbors to attend their services on the weekends. Similar to Judaism's mandate to observe Shabbat, in Islam it is seen as a sin to miss the Friday prayers. Considering we are small minority community; this is a crucial time for our children to affirm their identity.

In addition, we have two holidays each year which we call Eid, one is after fasting Ramadan and the other is during the pilgrimage season. Similar to our Jewish friends, we follow a lunar calendar and so these holidays fall on different calendar days. This year the Eid Holiday celebrating the conclusion of the Ramadan fast will be Friday March 20th, 2026. The other Eid falls on Wednesday May 27th, 2026

We appreciate your consideration regarding the religious practices of our community and please do not hesitate to contact me for any further clarification.

Imam John Ederer,

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