



MUSLIM COMMUNITY CENTER  
— CHARLOTTE —

**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 2pm on Fridays to attend our service. The Friday prayer AKA Jummah in Islam is similar to the Saturday Shabbat for Jews and Sunday Church Service for Christians.

Customs allow 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 a 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 on Wednesday April 10<sup>th</sup> 2024. The other Eid falls during the summer break.

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

**Imam John Ederer,**

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