

MAS KATY CENTER

1800 Baker Road, Houston, TX 77094 | 832-321-3511 | info@maskaty.org www.maskaty.org

Re: Accommodation for Daily Afternoon & Friday prayers

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a request for cooperation from school districts to accommodate Muslim student(s) to pray their daily afternoon (Dhuhr) prayers, in a quiet and respectful place, at the school's premise, with other Muslim students. Dhuhr prayer is the second Islamic prayer of the day, and the prayer time starts when the sun begins to decline from its zenith in the afternoon.

Friday (Jumah) prayer is the congregational prayer that Muslims hold every Friday afternoon instead of the Dhuhr prayer. And I request you to grant the student/bearer of this letter, a momentary time off to attend the Jumah prayer at the local Islamic Center. At MAS Katy center, we offer two Jumah prayer services on Friday afternoon and the timings are subject to change with daylight savings. Please allow [him/her] to attend one of the prayer service of their choice and record it as an excused absence.

Many school districts across the country work to ensure that Muslim students have access to religious accommodations, as required by federal and state law, for religious clothing and attire, prayer during school hours, meal accommodations, observing fasting, and attending Friday congregational prayers.

For decades, courts have agreed that these breaks are reasonable and do not pose an unreasonable burden. I request that the students are allowed to observe their daily and Friday congregational prayers in accordance with their beliefs and well-established law. Allowing brief breaks for prayer during the day is reasonable and will not interrupt school and other administrative functions.

Any schoolwork missed or tests can be made up. Please do not hesitate to contact our center at info@maskaty.org to further discuss providing these accommodations while continuing to promote a safe and supportive school environment.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mahmoud Abdel Rahman President, MAS Katy

This letter is intended for the following student:

Student full name:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

