



Policy: ADG
Subject: Religion

Policy:

The Red River Valley School Division Board of Trustees believes all schools in the division should be non-sectarian.

Protocol:

As per the Public Schools' Act, the Division will be in compliance with provincial statutes and regulations concerning religious instruction and religious exercises.

Prior to the commencement of religious instruction, a curriculum must be provided to the school administration and be made available for the public upon request.

The volunteer conducting religious exercises and/or instruction must submit a Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Search and Manitoba Child Abuse Registry Check to RRVSD in advance of the commencement of the religious exercises or instructional block. (See Policy KIB Volunteering).

Procedure:

When possible, petitions for religious exercises will be submitted to the Board in May for the following school year (Appendix A)

Divisional Personnel or Board Members will not be involved in the petitioning process, other than to provide information pertaining to the provincial guidelines governing this process.

Parent Councils (MAPC recognized) are considered part of a school, and are therefore non-sectarian and subject to the same restrictions outlined in the above paragraph.

Religious Instruction

For regulations, please see section 80 to 82 of the Public Schools Act.

Religious Exercises

For regulations, please see section 84 of the Public Schools Act.

Each school will provide appropriate space for religious exercises before the start of the school day. Exercises will be led by volunteers from the school staff, from the community or parents. Students with permission to participate (those whose parents have signed the petition or added their name to the petition with a signed note) shall meet in the designated area during the designated non-instructional time.

Attendance will not be taken, nor shall the school staff enforce attendance or non-attendance, other than to respond to questions from parents where appropriate.

At no time will religious exercises be broadcast in the school via any public address system or held during a general assembly.

Students not participating will not be required to report for classes until the instructional day begins (after any religious exercises take place).

Appendix A

Petition to the Red River Valley School Division for Religious Instruction

I wish to add my name to the petition for Religious Instruction to be conducted at _____ school for my child(ren) for the _____ school year.

First and Last Name
Parent's Name (please print clearly)

First and Last Name
Parent's Name (please print clearly)

Parent's Signature
(Petition must be signed by both parents/guardians or custodial parents)

Parent's Signature

Address including Postal Code

Phone Number

Child's Name

Grade

Age

Child's Name

Grade

Age

Child's Name

Grade

Age

Name of Sponsoring Organization to deliver Religious Instruction: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

I give my child(ren) permission to attend classes in the religious instruction provided by the sponsoring organization listed above and I understand **and have been informed of the curriculum being taught** to my child(ren).

I understand that the curriculum provided for Religious Instruction has not been approved or developed by the Red River Valley School Division nor the Province of Manitoba, but is available as information at the school office.

Parent's Signature

Parent's Signature

Date

Approval Date: May 25, 2005

Revision Date: December 13, 2011; June 14, 2016

Appendix B

Petition to the Red River Valley School Division for Religious Exercises

I wish to add my name to the petition for Religious Exercises to be conducted at _____ school for my child(ren) for the _____ school year. I am aware of the content of the exercises to be conducted at the school.

First and Last Name
Parent's Name (please print clearly)

First and Last Name
Parent's Name (please print clearly)

Parent's Signature
(Petition must be signed by both parents/guardians or custodial parents)

Parent's Signature

Address including Postal Code

Phone Number

Child's Name

Grade

Age

Child's Name

Grade

Age

Child's Name

Grade

Age