



Religious Instruction

Administrative Procedure 3.A.070

Board Governance Policy Cross Reference: 1, 2, 3, 4, 12, 13, 16

Legal Reference: Public Schools Act (80 – 83)

Date Adopted: June, 2012

Date Amended:

Date Reviewed: February, 2019

School boards are required to pass a by-law authorizing religious instruction if a petition is presented to the school board. The parents or guardians of at least 10 children attending a school having one or two classrooms must sign the petition. For a school having three or more classrooms, the parents or guardians of at least 25 children attending the school must sign the petition.

Authorized religious instruction may take place during school hours and on such days as approved by the school board by-law, but shall not exceed 2 ½ hours per week. The instruction shall be conducted by a clergyman, priest, rabbi or other spiritual leader or by a representative of parents recognized by the school board as constituting a religious group or by any person including a teacher, duly authorized by such clergyman, priest, rabbi or other spiritual leader.

Where the parent or guardian of a pupil who is under the age of majority does not want the child to participate in the religious instructions or where an age of majority student does not want to participate in the religious instruction, they must be excused from participating therein. Those students should continue to receive appropriate instruction from teachers.