

Board Governance Policy Cross Reference: 1, 2, 3, 16

Legal Reference: Public School Act (Sections 80-83)

Date Adopted: February 2019

Date Amended:

Religious Instruction may be conducted in any school in Manitoba if authorized by a by-law passed by the School Board.

- School Boards are required to pass a by-law authorizing religious instruction if a petition is
 presented to the school.
- Schools with one (1) or two (2) classrooms must have the parents or guardians of at least ten (10) of the children attending that school sign the petition.
- For schools with three (3) or more classrooms, the parents or guardians of at least twenty-five (25) of the children attending that 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 2.5 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