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NEWS RELEASE

Winnipeg School Division Board develops guidelines for religious instruction requests

June 16, 2015 (Winnipeg, MB) – The Winnipeg School Division (WSD) Board of Trustees has developed guidelines, including a petition template, to assist parents in requesting religious instruction in WSD schools.

“The purpose of the guidelines is to ensure parents are fully informed of the type of instruction planned and the curriculum being used,” said WSD Board Chair Mark Wasyliv.

Section 80 (2) states that if a petition requesting that religious instruction be given in a school is presented to the school board and is signed by the parents or guardians of at least 25 children attending the school the school board shall pass a by-law authorizing instruction in religion in compliance with the petition.

The guidelines ensure parents are aware that the curriculum has not been approved or developed by the Winnipeg School Division. In addition, the guidelines require the sponsoring organization to make available a copy of the curriculum in the school office. Parental signatures on petitions must be dated and submitted within 45 days to the Winnipeg School Division.

[Link to guidelines and petition.](#)

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