

PARENTAL REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM INSTRUCTION

Background

The Division bases instructional programs on Ministry of Education curricula and approved locally developed courses. These programs are designed to develop students' capacities to think clearly, reason logically and examine all issues. In some instances, parents might feel that the instructional program is not aligned with their religious or other personal beliefs. In these circumstances, the school division encourages respectful and open dialogue between parents, teachers and principals to address differences.

Procedures

1. The principal is responsible for supervising the instructional program.
 - 1.1 Teachers are responsible for aligning instructional programs to provincial curriculum outcomes.
 - 1.2 Curriculum outcomes cannot be changed.
 - 1.3 Current Saskatchewan Curricula are not based on identified units of study, but on provincial learning outcomes that are often woven through various units throughout the course of study.
2. Parents who have concerns regarding the content of the instructional program should share their concerns with the teacher.
3. If a resolution is not achieved with the teacher, parents may submit a written request to the principal asking that their child(ren) be exempted from participating in particular learning. In these circumstances, the parents will work with the principal to arrange for an alternative learning experience that may/may not take place in the classroom.
 - 3.1 The school and parent will work together to determine how the student might meet curricular outcomes with instructional adaptations (e.g., using different resources).
 - 3.2 If the student is completely removed from the learning, the student will receive a mark of NA (not assessed) on the curriculum outcomes in question.
 - 3.3 All written requests will be shared with the Superintendent of Operations.
4. For information regarding challenging learning resources, refer to [AP 270 - Selection and Development of Instructional Materials and Equipment](#).