HOME-BASED EDUCATION

Background

The Division recognizes the right of parents to register their children in a home-based education program with the school division. The Division also recognizes that the costs of a home-base education program rest with parents who choose this form of education for their children.

Procedures

1. The superintendent responsible for home-based education will ensure that:
   - Home-based education programs are registered, administered and monitored in accordance with *The Education Act, 1995,* and Home-Based Education regulations and policy guidelines of the Ministry of Education Home Based Education Informational Package
   - A permanent record for each home-based education program is maintained.
   - The Special Education Plan addresses services for special needs students enrolled in a registered home-based education program.

2. The Division will provide funds to each home-based learner who is registered with the school division by September 30th and continues their home-based education through to June 30th of each school year. This funding will be payable to the student's parents/guardians following the receipt of an approved Education Plan in September of each school year and ***a yearend*** report on or before June 30th of each school year. This funding is intended to defray some of the cost of a home-based education program and is set annually in consultation with the Administrative Council.

   Home-based educators wishing to receive the home-based education grant must comply with the following requirements:

   2.1 A Saskatchewan Rivers School Division Home-based Registration Form must be completed and submitted to the school division.

   2.2 An Education Plan must be completed following the guidelines in the Registration Package. The plan must be submitted to the superintendent overseeing home-schooling by the date identified in the Home-Based Informational Package. Arrangements for extensions must be made with, and are subject to the discretion of, the superintendent.

   2.3 A year-end report following the division's stated requirements must be submitted to the Superintendent on or before the date identified by the school division. Arrangements for extensions must be made with, and are subject to the discretion of, the superintendent.

   2.4 Four hundred dollars ($400) per school year will be granted to home-based educators for each student in grades 1 to 12 who are in compliance with the requirements cited above. Kindergarten students are eligible to receive a grant of $200.

3. The following services will be made available to registered home-based learners:

   3.1 The school division will provide funds to each registered home-based learner to help defer some of the cost of a home-based education program.

3.2 The school division will provide a standardized test once each school year for a home-based learner if it is requested by the home-based educator. The school division will provide the home-based educator with the results of the standardized test and an interpretation of the results.

3.3 Instructional resources may be borrowed by home-based educators from the Teacher Resource Centre and from the school library of the home-based educator's community or neighborhood school pursuant to borrowing and usage policy of these libraries;

3.4 Textbooks surplus to the school program may be borrowed from the home-based educator's community or neighborhood school;

3.5 Driver training for high school aged students will be made available upon application;

3.6 Home-based Education students may participate in extracurricular activities providing:

3.6.1 Home-based students participate as part of the school in their attendance area.

3.6.2 Travel costs are born by the parent.

3.6.3 Participation is limited to availability of space on teams and clubs. Opportunities to participate will only be granted if there are positions open – positions on teams of clubs will be filled first by students attending the school as regular students.

3.6.4 Participation in any co-curricular or extracurricular activity can be ended at the discretion of the school principal.

3.7.4 Students in Grades 9 – 12 are subject to the rules and regulations of the SHSAA.

Home-based education students begin the process of participating in school sports by contacting the school principal.

3.7 Home-based education students may participate in co-curricular events providing:

3.7.1 Co-curricular events are activities that support the provincial curricula. Home-based education students must submit a written learning plan to the principal that identifies the learning outcomes supported by the activity.

3.7.2 The supervision of the student is the responsibility of the parent.

3.7.3 Fees and travel costs are born by the parent.

3.7.4 Home-based students obey the rules and comply with the expectations of all students participating in the event.

3.7.5 Principals have the authority to end the participation of the home-based student in any school-based activity at their discretion.

Home-based education students begin the process of participating in co-curricular events by contacting the principal.

3.8 Home-based students may access a needs assessment provided by the school division. The results of the assessment will be shared with the parents and/or, if appropriate, with the student along with recommendations for educational support.

4. In the case of a disagreement between the school division and the home-based educator relating to a home-based education program, the matter can be referred to the home-based education dispute resolution process. This dispute resolution process is described in the regulations of *The Education Act, 1995.*

Reference: Section 156, *The Education Act, 1995*
Revised: June 16, 2014; June 6, 2016