

Administrative Procedure 208

RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL INSTRUCTION

Background

The Division recognizes in the importance of Canada's religious and spiritual heritage and supports the traditional role of spirituality in society and in education.

Procedures

1. In all matters pertaining to religious and spiritual instruction, the Division shall be guided by Section 182 of *The Education Act, 1995*.
2. The Division recognizes the pluralistic nature of Canadian society and therefore supports an approach, in the context of the Core Curriculum, to religion and spirituality that is sensitive to and encouraging of the presentation of an equitable and representative cross section of points of view.
3. Working within the established curriculum, the Division encourages schools to develop in students:
 - 3.1 An appreciation of such universal values as honesty, caring, respect and tolerance;
 - 3.2 An understanding of the purpose and worth of human existence;
 - 3.3 A respect for family, religion, and culture in a pluralistic society;
 - 3.4 An appreciation for and understanding of world religions.
4. Where topics of religion or spirituality are covered in Core Curriculum, the focus shall be on teaching about versus teaching in a specific religion.

Reference: Section 85, 87, 109, 175, 182, 184, *The Education Act, 1995*

Approved: May 12, 2014