



St. James-Assiniboia School Division

Great Schools for Growing and Learning

Statement from SJASD Trustees on By-Law 326-23

June 7, 2023

On June 6, 2023, SJASD Trustees passed a by-law authorizing religious instruction at Strathmillan School for the children of petitioners for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year in accordance with sections 80 and 81 of the Public Schools Act (PSA).

We value the feedback we have received from community members on this issue.

That said, this decision was made after careful consideration of requirements set out in the PSA. Any concerns regarding the Public Schools Act or guidelines relating to the Act should be addressed to the province.

Until the end of June, 30 minutes of weekly instruction for the children of petitioners will take place during the lunch hour at a time to be arranged with school administration.

Two Trustees will attend a religious instruction session at Strathmillan School to hear what is being taught and ensure the content is following SJASD's [respect for human diversity policy](#). Additionally, the Board will send correspondence to the Minister of Education seeking clarification on sections 80 and 81 of The Public Schools Act.

We remain committed to providing safe, caring and inclusive learning environments for our students that respect human diversity, while respecting religious diversity.

At this time, no further details will be provided with respect to religious instruction at Strathmillan School.

Thank you for your interest in SJASD schools.

Signed,

SJASD Board of Trustees