

ANIMALS IN SCHOOLS

The River East Transcona School Division recognizes that animals in schools are beneficial for the following purposes:

- Supporting curriculum and educational practices
- As a resource for enriching the learning of students
- As a service and non-service (therapy or companion) animal (refer to IMG-R2 Protocol for Service and Non-Service Animals in School with Students with Additional Needs)

River East Transcona School Division supports that people requiring the use of service animals have a legal right to do so. In Manitoba, a service animal is defined as “*an animal that has been trained to provide assistance to a person with a disability that relates to that person’s disability*”. (Manitoba Human Rights Code Section 9 (2))

In consultation with the principal or designate, animals shall be permitted, in classrooms, schools and/or school grounds, for student instruction purposes, provided adequate precautions are taken to ensure the health and safety of the animals, the students and the division employees. Particular attention should be taken with regard to obtaining information from parents/legal guardians concerning students with allergies, prior to the animal being brought to the school.

Effective Date:	May 6, 2003	Review Date:
Amended Date:	March 19, 2013; Nov 19, 2019	
Board Motion(s):	203/03; 90/13; 264/19	
	The Manitoba Human Rights Code, C.C.S.M. c. H175; IMG-R2	
Legal/Cross Reference:	Protocol for Service and Non-Service Animals in Schools for Students with Additional Needs	
