

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)

The 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*”. (The Human Rights Code [Manitoba] Section 1)

In consultation with the principal or designate, animals shall be permitted in classrooms, in schools, and/or on school grounds for student instruction purposes, provided adequate precautions are taken to ensure the health and safety of the animals, students, and division employees (refer to IMG-R1 Protocol for Animals in School). Particular attention should be taken with regard to obtaining information from parents/legal guardians concerning students with allergies and anxieties, prior to the animal being brought to the school.

Effective Date:	May 6, 2003	Review Date:
Amended Date:	March 19, 2013; Nov 19, 2019; March 5, 2024	
Board Motion(s):	203/03; 90/13; 264/19; 51/24 The Human Rights Code, C.C.S.M. c. H175; IMG-R2 Protocol for Service and Non- Service Animals in Schools for Students with Additional Needs	
Legal/Cross Reference:		