

HUTTERITE EDUCATION

Background

Good Spirit School Division provides educational services to Hutterite colonies within its boundaries. The Division recognizes there are Hutterite Brethren practices regarding the education of their children and strives to work with the individual Hutterite Colony to ensure that protocols, values and traditions are supported.

Procedures

1. Good Spirit School Division is to assign educational staff, and provide furnishings, equipment, textbooks and instructional materials consistent with allocations similar to all schools in the division.
2. Each colony is to provide suitable facilities for instruction. All operating and maintenance costs are the responsibility of the colony, with the exception of janitorial supplies.
3. Programs and curricula are to be consistent with the Ministry of Education guidelines and be responsive to Hutterite culture. Particular sensitivity will be shown around issues of family life in the Health subject area, career education, and ideas relating to the origin of the species in the Science subject area.
4. Colonies desire the main teaching focus to be in the areas of basic skills: reading, writing, math, general knowledge of social studies and science and other areas addressed as necessary.
5. Brethren would like to see appropriate times devoted to these subjects and the names of the subjects appropriate (not dance listed as a subject).
 - 5.1. Objectives of the curricula addressed need to align with the Hutterian beliefs and values; omit those that aren't.
 - 5.2. Teachers need to be careful to not infringe their values and ideas on the Hutterite way of life.
 - 5.3. The individual colony has certain ways of doing things and those ways are to be respected by the English teacher.
6. Areas of the curricula deemed sensitive shall be discussed with the principal of the school in consultation with the Hutterian Manager in charge of the school and its operations.
 - 6.1. Areas NOT permissible to be addressed in Colony Schools: are Evolution, Reproduction in all forms and related topics, Religion in terms of New Age Movement; interpretation of the Bible and scriptures, dance and music other than acappella singing.

- 6.2. Technology: In consultation with the Hutterian Manager, the principal will develop guidelines to determine as to what forms of technology is both appropriate and how it may be used for the purpose of learning.
7. The School Administrator is responsible for:
 - 7.1. Education of the students within his or her school.
 - 7.2. Monitor the use of technology while it is being used both during instructional and non-instructional hours during the day.
 - 7.3. Attend meetings and in-services as requested by Good Spirit School Division.
 - 7.4. Ensure all administrative responsibilities are carried out in an efficient manner (e.g. form completion and submission; supervision of staff; ordering of school-based materials.)
 - 7.5. Inform the German Teacher of information pertaining to the Colony School (e.g. repairs needed; Good Spirit School Division policy changes).
 - 7.6. Meet often with the German teacher and ask for input in the students well-being.
 - 7.7. Regularly communicate with Superintendent of Education or designate assigned to colony schools.
 8. Good Spirit School Division is responsible for:
 - 8.1. The learning program and curriculum.
 - 8.2. Provision of key resources for curriculum.
 - 8.3. Hiring and supervision of teaching staff.
 - 8.4. Hiring and supervision of educational assistants.
 - 8.5. School division procedures, development of policies and procedures of colony schools with colony consultation.
 - 8.6. Professional development for teaching staff and support staff.
 - 8.7. Student support services and assessment for students.
 - 8.8. School furniture such as desks and office furniture.
 - 8.9. Photocopier
 - 8.10. Budget allotment for printing and internet use.
 9. Colony Responsibilities:
 - 9.1. Buildings: The colony is responsible to provide and maintain colony school facilities.
 - 9.2. The German teacher submits orders for the school.
 - 9.3. School Supplies: The colony is responsible to provide each student with school supplies and to replenish supplies as they are depleted. The English teacher provides a list of necessary supplies to the German Teacher. The

German Teacher should ensure that supplies are available for the start of the school year.

9.4. Information: The German Teacher has a responsibility to inform the School Administrator of decisions affecting their school.

10. The teacher in consultation with the Colony manager or German teacher shall explain rules of the colony to the staff when it pertains to their education, educational field trips and extra-curricular activities.

11. Attendance of students:

11.1. Attendance until age 15 is the guideline that will be followed and in consultation with the Hutterian Manager this guideline may be adjusted to go higher than the age outlined.

12. Religious Days: Colony Religious days will be utilized in the following manner:

12.1. Colony Principals will use these non-student contact days as additional administrative time.

12.2. Colony Teachers will use these non-student contact days as additional preparation days.

12.3. Colony teachers and administrators may use this time at their colony school (if the colony permits) or at any other Good Spirit School Division facility.

Legal Reference: Section 85, 87, 109, 157 Education Act

Updated: June 2017