

## Notice of Approved Petition for Mitchell Middle School

### Petition for Religious Exercises (2023-24)

Hanover School Division Board of Trustees has received a petition requesting that religious exercises be held at Mitchell Middle School during the 2023-24 school year. The petitioners have specified their desire for the recitation of the Lord's Prayer and the reading of a Bible passage or story from the Bible. As the petition bears the signatures of parents/guardians representing more than 60 students in the school, the Board of Trustees has authorized religious exercises as specified above. These exercises are to be held before the official instructional day in a designated common area of the school.

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Parents/Guardians who did not sign the submitted petitions are eligible to join at any time by delivering a signed note to the school office. The note must indicate the name and grade of the student for whom permission to participate is being given and include parent/guardian signature. The school principal will forward all received documentation to the HSD Administration Office. Only children whose parents/guardians signed the petition or have subsequently joined via permission note may participate in the exercises as described above.

Religious exercises and religious instruction in public schools may only be implemented by school boards in a manner consistent with the Public Schools Act and provincial guidelines, after petition by parents/guardians. Petitions must be presented to the board on an annual basis in advance of the next school year. Original petitions must be submitted to the Hanover School Division Administrative Office by April 30th.

Additional information regarding the Public Schools Act, HSD policies, and provincial guidelines governing these petitions can be viewed on the Mitchell Middle School website.



Ron Falk, Board Chair  
Hanover School Division



Shelley Amos, Superintendent-CEO  
Hanover School Division

Approved Aug. 29, 2023