



## Administrative Procedure 2040

### *Gideon Bible Distribution*

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**Board Governance Policy Cross Reference:** [1](#), [11](#), [12](#), [14](#)

**Administrative Procedures Cross Reference:**

**Form Cross Reference:**

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**Legal/Regulatory Reference:**

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**Date Adopted:** January 1998

**Amended:** December 2017

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The Brandon School Division approves the distribution of Testaments by the Gideon Society with the consent of parents/guardians. The Superintendent/CEO or designate will allow the Gideon Society to distribute Testaments to Grade 5 students when such parental/guardian consent has been obtained and the distribution process outlined below is followed.

This section contains guidelines to be followed by the Superintendent/CEO, School Leaders and the Gideon Society when distributing Testaments. Any modification of this procedure shall be subject to the approval of the Superintendent/CEO or designate.

After receiving formal application from the Gideon Society, the Superintendent/CEO or designate will inform School Leaders in writing that members of the Gideon Society have been granted permission to contact School Leaders to arrange for the distribution of Testaments to Grade 5 students in the applicable school year. The School Leaders shall then follow these guidelines to distribute Testaments:

- The Gideon Society member is responsible for providing sufficient quantities of consent cards to the School Leader. These cards must require the formal consent of the parent/guardian as indicated by a signature on the card indicating consent for their child to receive a Testament.
- The School Leader will arrange for the distribution of consent cards to all Grade 5 students, unless a parent/guardian has specifically requested an exemption from such material for their child. No student will be required to take a consent card.
- Only students in Grade 5 shall be offered consent cards and be eligible to participate in this activity at the school.
- All signed consent cards shall be retained at the school until the following June 30<sup>th</sup>.

- The School Leader will schedule a time convenient with the classroom teacher when only students who return a consent card signed by a parent/guardian may be excused from the classroom to receive the Testament, ensuring that regular classroom work is not unduly interrupted. It is preferable that the distribution occur in non-class time such as after classes at the end of the school day.
- Student involvement shall be voluntary. The Testaments shall be handed to the students by the School Leader or designate. A representative of the Gideon Society may be present. The presentation shall not include the reading of any scripture, prayer or the giving of any religious message, but may include distribution of a handout describing the work of the Gideon Society
- The Gideon Testament distributed shall be that edition which contains no pledge/decision page.