

IGE - Parental Objections to Specific Course Material

Category: Priority/Required By Law

The Board recognizes that there may be specific course materials which some parents/guardians find objectionable.

Parents and legal guardians shall be notified by e-mail, other written means, website/social media posting, or phone call not less than two (2) weeks in advance of use of the curriculum course material to be used for instruction of human sexuality or human sexual education, that the material is available for inspection at the school. The notice will identify and provide contact information for the member of staff or faculty a parent or guardian should contact to arrange an opportunity to inspect the curriculum course material.

In the event a parent/guardian finds specific course material objectionable, the parent/guardian may notify the building principal of the specific material to which they object and request that the student receive alternative instruction, sufficient to enable the child to meet state requirements for education in the particular subject area. This notification and request shall be in writing.

The Principal and the parent must mutually agree to the alternative instruction. The alternative instruction agreed upon must meet state minimum standards.

School District staff will make reasonable efforts, within the scope of existing time, schedules, resources and other duties, to accommodate alternative instruction for the student. Alternative instruction may be provided by the school, through approved independent study, or through other method agreed to by the parent/guardian and the building principal. Any cost associated with the alternative instruction shall be borne by the parent.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed as giving parents/guardians the right to appeal to the School Board.

Parents who wish for particular instructional material be reviewed for appropriateness may submit a request for review in accordance with Board Policy KEC or IHAM.

In accordance with the federal Protection of Pupil Rights statute, as a School District that receives federal Department of Education funds, the Superintendent shall develop procedures to allow parent/guardian of a student to inspect any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for the student. The procedures will provide reasonable access to instructional material within a reasonable period of time after the request is received.

Legal References:

RSA 186:11, IX-c & IX-e State Board of Education; Duties.
20 U.S.C §1232h, (c)(1)(C), Protection of pupil rights

Second Reading and Approval, Mason: September 17, 2018

New Policy Mason: August 20, 2018

Revised: September 2017

New Sample Policy: January 2012

NHSBA note, September 2017: The 2017 update adds new second paragraph requiring notice to parents and guardians in response to 2017 House Bill 103, Laws of 2017 Chapter 9 which added a requirement that advance notice of no less than two (2) weeks be given of curriculum course material to be used for instruction of human sexuality or human sexual education. The last paragraph applies only for School Districts that receive federal funds administered by the federal Department of Education. It addresses a requirement in the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), that Local Education Agencies adopt a policy that permits parents to inspect instructional material.