

PARENTAL NOTIFICATION RELATIVE TO SEX EDUCATION

In accordance with the law, the School Committee has adopted this policy on the rights of students' caregivers in relation to curriculum that primarily involves human sexual education or human sexuality issues.

At the beginning of each school year, all caregivers of students in our schools will be notified in writing of the courses and curriculum we offer that primarily involve human sexual or human sexuality issues. The Superintendent of Schools will determine the administrator(s) responsible for sending the notice(s). Caregivers of students who enroll in school after the start of the school year will be given written notice at the time of enrollment. If planned curricula change during the school year, to the extent practicable, caregivers will be notified of this fact in a timely manner before implementation.

Each such notice to caregivers will include a brief description of the curriculum covered by this policy and will inform caregivers that they may:

- Exempt their child from any portion of the curriculum that primarily involves human sexual education or human sexuality issues, without penalty to the student, by sending a letter to the school Principal requesting an exemption. Any student who is exempted by request of the caregivers under this policy may be given an alternative assignment.
- Inspect and review program instruction materials for these curricula, which will be made reasonably accessible to caregivers and others to the extent practicable. Caregivers may arrange with the Principal to review the materials at the school and may also review them at other locations that may be determined by the Superintendent of Schools.

A caregiver who is dissatisfied with a decision of the Principal concerning notice, access to instructional materials, or exemption for the student under this policy may send a written request to the Superintendent for review of the issue. The Superintendent or designee will review the issue and give the caregivers a timely written decision, preferably within two weeks of the request. Caregivers who are dissatisfied with the Superintendent's decision may send a written request to the School Committee for review of the issue. The School Committee will review the issue and give the caregivers a timely written decision, preferably within four weeks of the request. Caregivers who are still dissatisfied after this process may send a written request to the Commissioner of Education for review of the issue in the dispute.

The Superintendent of Schools will distribute a copy of this policy to each Principal by September 1 of each year.

SOURCE: MASC October 2016

LEGAL REFS: M.G.L. [71:32A](#); [603 CMR 5](#)

Adopted by the NMRSD School Committee:

NMRSD Adoption: March 25, 2019

Five-Year Review Cycle: April 2, 2024

NMRSD First Vote: April 11, 2024

NMRSD Adoption: June 13, 2024