

Objections to Course Material

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

Concerns regarding health education and exemption from instruction are addressed in Policy #6140.1 (IHAM) Health Education and Exemption from Instruction.

Parents or legal guardians who find specific course material objectionable shall notify the building principal in writing of the specific material to which they object. They may request that the student receive alternative course material, sufficient to enable the child to meet state requirements for education in the particular subject area. The cost related to the alternative course material is the responsibility of the parent/legal guardian.

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 another method agreed to by the parent/guardian and the Building Principal. The alternative course materials must meet the state requirements for education in the particular subject area.

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

In accordance with the Federal Protection of Pupil Rights statute, as a School District that receives Federal Department of Education funds, and NH RSA 186:11, IX-c, the Superintendent shall develop procedures to allow parent/guardian of a student to review any instructional material used as part of the education curriculum for the student. The procedures will provide reasonable access to instructional material within a reasonable period of time after the request is received (as is reasonable under the circumstances).

NOTE regarding human sexuality and human sexual education: In addition to the protections under this policy, per RSA 186:11, IX-c and Board policy IHAM, parents/guardians are afforded additional affirmative rights with respect to instruction or program of human sexuality, human sexual education, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression, including, among other things, the right to receive a minimum of 2 weeks advance notice of any curriculum course material to be used with respect to such instruction or program. Such notice will be delivered via email, other direct written means, website/social media posting, or phone call. As indicated in RSA 186:11, IX-c, no notice is required if the District employee is responding to a question from a student during class.

Legal References:

RSA 186:11, IX-b & IX-c State Board of Education: Duties

RSA 194:40, Prohibition on Teaching Discrimination

20 U.S.C. §1232h, (c)(1)(C), Protection of Pupil Rights

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