

# **Promoting Parental Involvement**

**The New Philadelphia City Schools Board of Education promotes parental involvement in the school system and recognizes the fundamental right of parents to make decisions regarding the upbringing and control of their children.**

## **Sexuality Content**

- The District ensures any sexuality content is age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate for the age of the student receiving the instruction, regardless of age or grade level.
- The District provides parents the opportunity to review instructional materials that include sexuality content prior to providing instruction or permitting third parties to do so on behalf of the District.
- Upon request of the parent a student is excused from instruction including sexuality content and is permitted to participate in an alternative assignment.
- Instruction including sexuality content is not provided to students in kindergarten through third grade by the District or any third party acting on behalf of the district.

## **Substantial Changes in Student's Services**

- The District promptly notifies a student's parent, by phone, via email or regular mail, of any substantial change in the student's services, including counseling service or monitoring related to their mental, emotional or physical health or well-being or the school's ability to provide them a safe and supportive learning environment.
- The District does not inhibit parental access to the student's education and health records maintained by the school.
- District personnel are prohibited from directly or indirectly encouraging a student to withhold information from a parent concerning the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being, or a change in related services or monitoring.
- District personnel are prohibited from discouraging or prohibiting parental notification of and involvement in decisions affecting a student's mental, emotional or physical health or well-being.

## **Parents Procedure for Written Concerns**

- Parents have the right to file a written concern with a school principal regarding a topic addressed in this policy.
- Written concerns received by a school principal about this policy are investigated fully and fairly and must be resolved within 30 days after receipt.
- Anonymous written concerns may not be investigated.
- A parent may appeal a principal's decision to the Superintendent and the Superintendent must conduct a hearing. Based on the findings of that hearing, the Superintendent decides to either affirm the principal's decision or determines the resolution to the parent's concern.
- A parent may appeal the Superintendent's decision to the Board. The Board must review the Superintendent's decision and if the Board determines it is necessary, hold a hearing on the Superintendent's decision. Based on the findings of that hearing, the Board decides to either affirm the Superintendent's decision or determines the resolution to the parent's concern.