

HLPUSD Mahmoud v. Taylor Opt out notice

Hacienda La Puente Unified School District (“District”) is committed to providing a rich, well-rounded education that reflects the diverse experiences, histories, and perspectives of people in our community and throughout the world. In accordance with state law, (*see* Cal. Educ. Code § 51930(b)(2) Cal. Educ. Code § 51204.5; Cal. Educ. Code § 51500), the District’s standards-aligned elementary (K-5) curriculum includes age-appropriate storybooks and classroom materials designed to promote inclusion, respect, and empathy. We encourage all students to participate in these meaningful learning opportunities.

The District recognizes that families hold a wide range of sincerely held religious beliefs. In light of the *Mahmoud v. Taylor* Supreme Court Case (2025), parents and guardians may request that their child be excused from specific storybook materials or instructional content and provided an alternate assignment if they believe that the content substantially interferes with their child’s religious development or poses a genuine conflict with their family’s sincerely held religious beliefs or practices.

If you wish to request that your child be excused from a specific storybook, please submit a written request to your school principal before the materials/content are presented in class. Your written request should include:

- The title or description of the specific storybook or instructional material from which you are requesting excusal if known. Include dates or curriculum units if known; and
- An explanation of how the storybook material or instructional content substantially interferes with the religious upbringing of your child in accordance with your sincerely held religious beliefs.

Upon receiving your request, the principal will review it and determine the appropriate response based on the nature of the request and the instructional context. Alternative assignments will be considered on a case-by-case basis in alignment with legal requirements and District policy.

Thank you for your ongoing engagement and collaboration as we work to support all students and families.