POLICY GUIDE

[See POLICY ALERT No. 238]

2422.02 PARENTAL OPT-OUT FROM CERTAIN INSTRUCTION

The Board of Education establishes and makes publicly available procedures, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.4(e), whereby any student whose parent presents to the Principal a signed statement that any or part of the instruction in health, family life education, or sex education is in conflict with the parent's conscience or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs shall be excused from that part of the course where such instruction is being given and, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.7., no penalties as to credit or graduation shall result.

The Board shall make all approved curriculum pacing guides and citations for core instructional materials publicly available pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.1(a)3.

A parent's right to exclude their child from any part of the instruction in health, family life education, or sex education that is in conflict with the parent's conscience or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.7. does not eliminate the requirement for a district to teach the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) or for a district to not comply with New Jersey's laws and statutory curriculum requirements. This opt-out provision only applies to individual parents who express an objection in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.7. and does not permit a district or grade level to proactively omit instruction in these areas from their curriculum.

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.7.
N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.1(a)3; 6A:8-3.4(e)
New Jersey Department of Education "Guidance Regarding Parental Opt-Outs Based on Religious Objections" – November 5, 2025

Adopted:

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