

PARENTAL NOTIFICATION RELATIVE TO SEX EDUCATION

In accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 71, Section 32A, the Weston School Committee has adopted this policy on the rights of parents and guardians of our students in relation to curriculum that primarily involves human sexual education or human sexuality issues.

At the beginning of each school year, all parents/guardians of students in our schools will be notified in writing of the courses and curriculum we offer that primarily involve human sexual education or human sexuality issues. The Principals will be responsible for sending the notice(s). Parents/guardians of students who enroll in school after the start of the school year will be given the written notice at the time of enrollment. If the planned curriculum changes during the school year, to the extent practicable, parents/guardians will be notified of this fact at least one month before implementation.

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

1. 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 Principal requesting an exemption. Any student who is exempted by request of the parent /guardian under this policy may be given an alternative assignment.
2. inspect and review program instruction materials for these curricula, which will be made reasonably accessible to parents/guardians and others to the extent practicable. Parents/guardians may arrange with the Principal to review the materials at the school or they may review them at the public library.

A parent/guardian 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 will review the issue and give the parent/ guardian a written decision in a timely fashion. A parent/guardian who is dissatisfied with the Superintendent's decision may send a written request to the School Committee for review of the issue in dispute. The School Committee shall review the issue and provide the parent with a timely written decision. Parents dissatisfied with the School Committee's decision may appeal the matter to the Massachusetts Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education.

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

Adopted: November 21, 2011