

OSSBA POLICY SERVICE E-02

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PARENT PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The board of education, in consultation with parents, teachers, and administrators, has developed and adopted this policy to promote and encourage the involvement of parents and guardians of children within the school district.

1. Parent participation in the schools is encouraged to improve parent and teacher cooperation in such areas as homework, attendance and discipline. At the beginning of each school year each teacher shall provide parents with contact information so that a parent has the opportunity to contact the teacher or administration to address concerns related to homework, attendance and discipline.
2. Parents may request additional information from the administration to learn about the course of study for their children and review learning materials, including the source of any supplemental educational materials.
3. Parents who object to any learning material or activity on the basis that it is harmful may withdraw their children from the activity or from the class or program in which the material is used. Objection to a learning material or activity on the basis that it is harmful includes objection to a material or activity because it questions beliefs or practices in sex, morality or religion. Parents are hereby informed that the withdrawal of a child from any state mandated courses could prevent their child from being eligible to receive a high school diploma.
4. If the school district offers any sex education curricula pursuant to Section 11-105.1 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes or pursuant to any rules adopted by the State Board of Education, parents may opt their child out of sex education instruction if the child's parent provides written objection to the child's participation in the sex education curricula. All curriculum and materials, including supplementary materials which will be used to teach or will be used for or in connection with a sex education class or program which is designed for the exclusive purpose of discussing sexual behavior or attitudes, or any test, survey or questionnaire whose primary purpose is to elicit responses on sexual behavior or attitudes, shall be available through the superintendent or designee for inspection by the parents or guardians of the students who will be involved with the class, program, test, survey, or questionnaire. Such curriculum, material, class, program, test, survey, or questionnaire shall include information about consent and shall have as one of its primary purposes the teaching of or informing students about the practice of abstinence. The term "consent" means the affirmative, unambiguous and voluntary agreement to engage in a specific sexual activity during a sexual encounter which can be revoked at any time. Consent cannot be:
 1. Given by an individual who:
 - a. is asleep or is mentally or physically incapacitated either through the effect of drugs or alcohol or for any other reason, or
 - b. is under duress, threat, coercion or force; or
 2. Inferred under circumstances in which consent is not clear including, but not limited to:
 - a. the absence of an individual saying "no" or "stop," or
 - b. the existence of a prior or current relationship or sexual activity.
5. Parents are hereby notified and given the opportunity to withdraw their children from any instruction or presentations regarding sexuality in courses other than formal sex education curricula pursuant to Section 11-105.1 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. No student will be required to participate in a sex education

class or program that discusses sexual behavior or attitudes if a parent or guardian of the student objects in

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writing. If the type of program referred to is a part of or is taught during a credit course, a student may be required to enroll in the course but shall not be required to receive instruction in or participate in the program if a parent or guardian objects in writing.

6. Parents may learn about the nature and purpose of clubs and activities that are part of the school curriculum, as well as extracurricular clubs and activities that have been approved by the school. A list of school clubs that have been approved by the board of education is available from the administration upon request.
7. Specific parent rights and responsibilities provided under the laws of this state, include the following:
 - a. the right to opt out of a sex education curriculum if one is provided by the school district.
 - b. open enrollment rights.
 - c. the right to opt out of assignments.
 - d. the right to be exempt from the immunization laws of the state pursuant to Section 1210.192 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
 - e. the promotion requirements prescribed in Section 1210.508E of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
 - f. the minimum course of study and competency requirements for graduation from high school prescribed in Section 11-103.6 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
 - g. the right to opt out of instruction on the acquired immune deficiency syndrome pursuant to Section 11-103.3 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
 - h. the right to review test results,
 - i. the right to participate in gifted programs pursuant to Sections 1210.301 through 1210.308 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
 - j. the right to inspect instructional materials used in connection with any research or experimentation program or project pursuant to Section 11-106 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
 - k. the right to receive a school report card,
 - l. the attendance requirements prescribed in Section 10-106 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
 - m. the right to public review of courses of study and textbooks,
 - n. the right to be excused from school attendance for religious purposes,
 - o. policies related to parental involvement pursuant to this section,

- p. the right to participate in parent-teacher associations and organizations that are sanctioned by the board of education of a school district, and

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- q. the right to opt out of any data collection instrument at the district level that would capture data for inclusion in the state longitudinal student data system except what is necessary and essential for establishing a student's public school record.

Parents may submit a written request for information during regular business hours to either the school principal at the school site or the superintendent at the office of the school district. Within ten (10) days of receiving the request for information, the school principal or superintendent, shall deliver the requested information to the parent or provide a written explanation of the reasons for the denial of the requested information. If the request is denied or the parent does not receive the requested information within fifteen (15) days after submitting the request, the parent may submit a written request for the information to the board of education. The board of education shall formally consider the request at the next scheduled public meeting if the request can be properly noticed on the agenda. If the request cannot be properly noticed on the agenda, the board of education shall formally consider the request at the next subsequent meeting of the board of education.

REFERENCE: 25 O.S. § 2003

70 O.S. § 11-105.1

21 O.S. § 113

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