

File: IHAMB**PARENTAL NOTIFICATION RELATIVE TO SEX EDUCATION**

As required by the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 71, Section 32A, the Sharon School Committee has adopted this policy on the rights of parents and guardians of students in relation to curriculum that primarily involves human sexual education or human sexuality issues.

Before such curriculum is introduced into any class, all parents/guardians of students in the class will be notified in writing that the material to be taught will primarily involve human sex education or issues of human sexuality. The Superintendent shall delegate responsibility for sending such notices in each school.

Notices to parents/guardians will inform them that they may:

1. exempt their child from any portion of the curriculum that primarily involves human sex education or human sexuality issues, by sending a letter to the school Principal requesting an exemption. Any student who is exempted by request of the parent/guardian under this policy may be given an alternative assignment and will not suffer any penalty for missing that portion of the curriculum; and/or
2. inspect and review program instruction materials for the curriculum in question. Such materials will be made available to parents/guardians to the extent practicable.

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 or designee will review the issue and give the parent/guardian a timely written decision, preferably within two weeks of the request. 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. The School Committee will review the issue and give the parent/guardian a timely written decision, preferably within four weeks of the request. A parent/guardian who is still dissatisfied after this process may send a written request to the Commissioner of Education for review of the issue in dispute.

Legal Refs.: M.G.L. 71:32A, Sex Education; Policy Regarding Notice to Parents, Exceptions
603 CMR 5.00, Dispute Resolution Under Parent Notification Law

Revised: October 30, 2013