

## **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.
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;
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,

### **Parent Participation (Con't)**

- 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
- 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.

**Legal References:**    **70 O.S. § 10-106**  
                              **70 O.S. § 11-103.3**  
                              **70 O.S. § 11-103.6**  
                              **70 O.S. § 11-105.1**  
                              **70 O.S. § 11-106**  
                              **70 O.S. § 1210.192**  
                              **70 O.S. § 1210.301 through § 1210.308**  
                              **70 O.S. § 1210.508E**

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**TITLE 210. STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
CHAPTER 10. SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION AND INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES  
SUBCHAPTER 2. PARENTAL RIGHTS [NEW]**

**210:10-2-1. Parents' rights concerning their minor children. [NEW]**

**(a) Purpose.**

The Parents' Bill of Rights instructs that parents have broad and inalienable rights concerning their minor children and that these rights are reserved to parents without obstruction or interference by governmental entities. 25 O.S. §§ 2001-2005. Parents' rights include the right to direct the education of their minor children, to object to public schools imposing unwanted instruction on questions of sex, morality, or religion; and additional rights applicable to minor children within public schools of this state. This Subchapter (2) seeks to implement and protect the rights of Oklahoma's parents concerning the education of their children and to otherwise exercise the State Board of Education's authority to adopt policies and make rules for public schools. Okla. Const. art. XIII, § 5; 70 O.S. § 3-104(A)(1).

**210:10-2-2. Definitions. [NEW]**

For the purposes of this Subchapter (2):

- (a) "Sex or Sexuality education" means any class, program, curriculum, instruction, test, survey, questionnaire, Course, or other instructional material that relates to sexual behavior, sexual attitudes, or sexuality, including but not limited to gender identity or sexual orientation.
- (b) "Course" means any program or activity where instruction or activities tied to the instruction are provided by or within a School District
- (c) "Information" means any form of information including but not limited to, identity information.
- (d) "Identity information" means information including but not limited to,
  - (1) any names or pronouns used by a student at school
  - (2) any social transition or other transition to a gender that differs from the student's sex
- (e) "Sex" means the physical condition of being male or female based on genetics and physiology, as identified on the individual's original birth certificate;
- (f) "Parent" means the natural or adoptive parent or legal guardian of a minor child.
- (g) "School district" or "School" means any public school district and public charter school district that serves students in prekindergarten through twelfth grades in this state.

**210:10-2-3. Requirements. [NEW]**

- (a) Parental rights regarding Sex or Sexuality education and their children.
  - (1) Advance written notice materially similar to the one described in 25 O.S. § 2003 shall be required for any Sex or Sexuality education material as defined in this Subchapter.
  - (2) The right to inspect classroom materials shall extend to any Sex or Sexuality education material as defined in this Subchapter.
  - (3) A written objection from a Parent pursuant to 25 O.S. § 2003, or this section may object in whole or in part to Sex or Sexuality education or any other instruction questioning beliefs or practices in Sex, morality, or religion.
  - (4) Each School district shall ensure that, to the extent reasonably feasible, it honors any partial objections requests within the meaning of paragraph (a)(32) of this section a manner that is easily accessible to parents upon request and that makes all parts of the material available for inspection.
- (b) Parental rights regarding information concerning their children.
  - (1) No School district, and no employee of the district or its schools, shall encourage, coerce, or attempt to encourage or coerce a minor child to withhold information from the child's Parent(s) or guardian(s).
  - (2) A School district shall disclose to a child's Parent(s) or guardian(s) any information

known to the School district or its employees regarding material changes reasonably expected to be important to Parent(s) regarding their child's health, social, or psychological development, including Identity information. Such disclosures shall occur within 30 days of learning the information and may include referrals to for appropriate counseling services that the Parent(s) or guardian(s) may use at their discretion.

(3) A School district that is informed or otherwise aware of a violation of 25 O.S. § 2002(C) or of this section within its district and fails to initiate disciplinary action within 30 days of learning of the violation, or fails to administer appropriate disciplinary action, shall be found to be in noncompliance with this section.

**210:10-2-4. Noncompliance. [NEW]**

**(a) Procedure.**

(1) If a Parent or guardian alleges a violation of 70 O.S. § 11-105.1, 25 O.S. § 2002(C), 25 O.S. § 2003, or OAC 210:10-2-3, the Parent or guardian shall provide a written complaint to the State Department of Education that summarizes the alleged violation, including the time, date, and location of the violation and the identity of any person involved. The complaint must also include a copy of any complaint to the School District and any response.

(2) Within fourteen days of receiving a complaint, the Department shall notify the School district of the allegation and provide an opportunity for response.

(3) The Department shall then conduct an investigation to determine whether a violation has occurred. The Department's Legal Services staff shall notify the Parent or guardian and the School district of the results of the investigation.

(4) If the Department concludes that a violation has occurred or may have occurred, the School district shall have fourteen days to request a hearing before the Board. The Board shall review the Complaint and the record using a preponderance of the evidence standard, may take additional evidence at its discretion, and shall publish an order with its findings of fact and conclusions of law.

**(b) Penalties.**

(1) If the State Board of Education makes a finding of willful noncompliance with the provisions of 70 O.S. § 11-105.1, 25 O.S. § 2002(C), 25 O.S. § 2003, or OAC 210:10-2-3, the State Board of Education shall alter the accreditation status of the school district at issue to either Accredited With Warning or Accredited With Probation as classified in OAC 210:35-3-201. The Board shall adjust the status to Accredited With Probation if the School district is already Accredited With Warning.

(2) If the State Board of Education makes a finding of negligent or reckless noncompliance with the provisions of 70 O.S. § 11-105.1, 25 O.S. § 2002(C), 25 O.S. § 2003, or OAC 210:10-2-3, the State Board of Education shall require the school district at issue to comply with this rule under such conditions and within such reasonable timeframes as ordered by the State Board of Education.

(3) Failure to comply with an order of the State Board of Education under paragraph (b)(2) of this section shall constitute willful noncompliance within the meaning of paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

## NOTIFICATION

No school district, and no employee of the district or its schools, shall encourage, coerce, or attempt to encourage or coerce a minor child to withhold information from the child's parent(s) or guardian(s).

The School District shall disclose to a student's parent(s) or guardian(s) any information known to the district or its employees regarding material changes reasonably expected to be important to parent(s) regarding their child's health, social or psychological development, including identity information. Such disclosures shall occur within thirty (30)

days of learning the information and may include referrals to appropriate counseling services that the parent(s) or guardian(s) may use at their discretion.

“Identity information” means information, including but not limited to,

- (1) Any names or pronouns used by a student at school;
- (2) Any social transition or other transition to a gender that differs from the student’s sex.

**LEGAL REFERENCE: Oklahoma Accreditation Standard 210:10-2-3**