

PELHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY
IGE – PARENTAL OBJECTION TO SPECIFIC COURSE MATERIAL

Category: Priority

The Board recognizes that there may be specific course materials which some parents/guardians find objectionable.

Parents and legal guardians shall be notified by email or other written means, not less than two (2) weeks in advance of use of the curriculum course material to be used for instruction of human sexuality or human sexual education, that the material is available for inspection at the school. Like all other curriculum, this will be accessible via the website. The notice will identify and provide contact information for the member of staff or faculty a parent or guardian should contact to arrange an opportunity to inspect the curriculum course material.

In the event a parent/guardian finds specific course material objectionable, the parent/guardian may notify the building principal of the specific material to which they object and request that the student receive alternative material, sufficient to enable the child to meet state requirements for education in the particular subject area. This notification and request shall be in writing.

The building principal and the parent/guardian must mutually agree to the alternative material. The alternative material must meet the state requirements for education in a particular subject area. If the parties cannot agree on acceptable alternative material, either party may appeal to the Superintendent who will have final decision-making authority. The parent/guardian will be responsible for any cost associated with delivering the alternative material.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed as giving parents/guardians the right to appeal to the School Board.

Parents/guardians who wish for particular instructional material to be reviewed for appropriateness may submit a request for review in accordance with Board policy KEC.

The name of the parent or legal guardian and any specific reasons disclosed to school officials for the objection to the material shall not be public information and shall be excluded from access under RSA 91-A.

In accordance with the federal Protection of Pupil Rights statute, as a School District that receives federal Department of Education funds, and NH RSA 186:11, IX-c, the Superintendent shall develop procedures to allow parents/guardians of a student to inspect any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for the student. The procedures will provide reasonable access to instructional material within a reasonable period of time after the request is received.

The District will provide parents or legal guardians a minimum of two (2) weeks advance notice of any curriculum course material to be used regarding human sexuality, human sexual education, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression.

Such notice will be delivered via email, other direct written means, or phone call. As indicated in RSA 186:11, IX-c, no notice is required if the District employee is responding to a question from a student during class.

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District Policy History:

Adopted: May 9, 2012

Revised: July 7, 2021

Revised: October 28, 2021

Revised: January 8, 2025

Legal References:

RSA 186:11, IX-b & IX-c State Board of Education; Duties.

20 U.S.C §1232h, (c)(1)(C), Protection of pupil rights

RSA 193:40, Prohibition on Teaching Discrimination