

Background

The Division will provide human sexuality instruction as mandated through the grades 3 through 6 Physical Education and Wellness curriculum, the grades 7 through 9 Health and Life Skills curriculum, Career and Technology Studies in high school (reproduction and readiness for parenting, developing maturity and independence) and Career and Life Management in high school.

Gender identity and sexual orientation may arise in the teaching of the curricular outcomes and so are included in this administrative procedure as related topics.

Procedures

1. Principals shall give parents/guardians the opportunity to exercise the decision to opt-in a student to curricular instruction that is sexual in nature, such as human sexuality, by notifying parents/guardians a minimum of 30 days in advance of the instruction, or classroom content.
 - 1.1 Each year before human sexuality topics are taught in a school, the Principal will notify parents/guardians via an opt-in form (AF 206-A), and teachers will inform parents/guardians via email/newsletter outlining:
 - 1.1.1 Each applicable grade;
 - 1.1.2 The general date that each topic will be discussed; and
 - 1.1.3 The teacher(s) who will instruct the learning.
 - 1.2 This decision not to opt-in does not, and cannot, apply to discussions that incidentally arise, including gender identity and sexual orientation, as a part of daily classroom interaction.
 - 1.3 Parents/guardians may also provide partial consent for their child to participate in the teaching of human sexuality.
 - 1.3.1. Partial consent means that the student is in the room during instruction and does not participate in activities, discussions or assessments related to human sexuality.
2. Parents/guardians may opt-in each year by completing the opt-in form (AF 206-A) sent out by the Principal.
3. Alternate learning and assessment experiences shall be provided for those students who do not opt-in.
4. Principals shall not permit the use or provision of learning and teaching resources that deal primarily and explicitly with gender identity, sexual orientation or human sexuality unless the learning and teaching resources are approved by the Minister.
 - 4.1 Where the use or provision of learning and teaching resources referred to in section 4 is by an external party, the principal shall not permit the use or provision unless both the learning and teaching resources and external party are approved by the Minister.

- 4.2 The review and approval of teaching and learning resources does not apply to library books or other resources that students access independently.
5. Teachers who use teaching and learning materials that include gender identity and sexual orientation or human sexuality references where the inclusion of those topics is indirect or incidental do not need to request parental consent.
6. AP 206 applies to teaching and learning resources selected by teachers to complement instruction. AP 206 does not apply to materials that students self-select in a school Learning Commons as per AP 250 Learning Commons.

Reference:

- AF 206-A Notice and Consent – Human Sexuality Form
- Section 1, 2, 16, 18, 18.1, 19, 52, 53, 58.11, 58.12, 196, 197, 222 Education Act
- Alberta Bill of Rights
- Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Constitution Act, 1982
- Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Amendment Act
- Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12