Chinook's Edge School Division – Administrative Procedure

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 AP 2 – 04 Teaching Religion, Human Sexuality and Sexual Orientation

 Related Policies:
 Initial Approval: 2011 February 10

 Related Procedures:
 Last Amended:

 Exhibits:
 Last Reviewed: 2019 November 25

PURPOSE

The Division acknowledges the importance of informing parents of the curriculum content for the educational program in which their child is enrolled. In particular, section 58.1 of the *Education Act* outlines the importance of notification to parents where courses of study, educational programs or instructional materials prescribed under the *Education Act* includes subject-matter and student outcomes that deals primarily and explicitly with religion, human sexuality or sexual orientation.

This does not apply to incidental or indirect references to religion, religious themes, human sexuality or sexual orientation in a course of study, education program, instruction or exercises or in the use of instructional materials.

The Division desires to make parents aware of their rights in this area.

SCOPE

This procedure applies to all staff.

PROCEDURES

Where courses of study, educational programs or instructional materials prescribed under the *Education Act* include subject-matter and student outcomes that deals primarily and explicitly with religion, human sexuality or sexual orientation the principal shall ensure:

- 1. Careful regard for sensitivity of the topic is exercised in the selection of resources.
- 2. Written notice shall be provided to parents and guardians of students explaining the program, its objectives and when it will be presented.
- 3. Detailed information on the program of studies will be made available to parents upon request.
- 4. Parents' right to exempt their child, if under the age of majority, from these specific lessons shall be stressed in the notification, as well as the parents' choice of having their child leave the classroom or remain, but not participate. Such requests must be made in writing to the principal.
- 5. Alternative learning experiences for the student who are exempted are made with no academic penalty to the student.

REFERENCE AND LINKS

Education Act <u>K – 12 Education Policies and Standards</u> Board Policy PL 3 – 03.1.0 Teaching About Controversial Issues

HISTORY

2011 Feb 10Amended2017 Oct 04Reviewed2019 Nov 25Reviewed