

Instruction

Exemption from Instruction

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome: The Board of Education shall offer planned, ongoing and systematic instruction on acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) as required by law. A student may be exempt from this instruction upon the written request to the Superintendent of Schools, or designee, by the student's parent or legal guardian. Students who are exempt from instruction shall be assigned to a supervised study period.

Family Life: The Board of Education recognizes that the purpose of family life education is to help students acquire factual knowledge, attitudes, and values which will contribute to the well-being of the individual, the family, and society. Among other things, family life education provides instruction directed toward enabling students to discuss effectively problems with family members. Such communication shall include the willingness and ability to listen, to accept criticism, and to respond with openness, frankness and honesty.

Helping students attain a mature and responsible attitude toward human sexuality is a continuous task of every generation. Parents have the primary responsibility to assist their children in developing moral values. The schools should support and supplement parents' efforts in the areas of family life and sex education by offering students factual information and opportunities to discuss concerns, issues, and attitudes inherent in family life and sexual behavior, including traditional moral values.

The Board of Education may offer programs of instruction regarding family life that may include family planning, human sexuality, parenting, nutrition, and the emotional, physical, psychological, hygienic, economic, and social aspects of family life. When family life programs are offered in the curriculum, a student shall be exempt from any portion of the instruction upon the written notification by the student's parent or guardian to the Superintendent of Schools or designee. Students who are exempt from instruction shall be assigned to a supervised study period.

Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and Prevention Program: Upon the written request of a parent or guardian, a student shall be exempt from participating in the sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention program in its entirety or from any portion specified by the parent or guardian. During the period in which the student would otherwise be participating in the program, the student will be provided with an opportunity for other study or academic work.

Dissection of Animals in the Classroom: Upon the written request of a parent or guardian, a student shall be excused from participating in or observing the dissection of any animal as part of classroom instruction. Such student shall be required to complete an alternate assignment determined by the administration.

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Physical Education: Any student who presents a certificate from a physician stating that, in the opinion of the physician, participation in physical education is medically contraindicated due to the physical condition of such student, shall be excused from the physical education requirement. The credit for physical education required for graduation may be fulfilled by an elective.

Foreign Language: Whenever a course in a foreign language is a required part of the curriculum, the parent or guardian of a student identified as deaf or hearing impaired may request in writing that such student be exempted from such requirement and, if such a request is made, such student shall be exempt from the foreign language requirement.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes: 10-16b Prescribed courses of study
 10-16c through 10-16f, Family life education programs
 10-18d. Animal dissection. Students to be excused from
 participation or observation
 10-19(b) Teaching about alcohol, nicotine or tobacco, drugs
 and acquired immune deficiency syndrome
 10-221a(c) High school graduation requirements
 Public Act 14-196, An Act Concerning State-Wide Sexual
 Abuse and Assault Awareness Program

Policy adopted: June 10, 2003
Policy revised: June 27, 2005
Policy revised: June 8, 2010
Policy revised: October 8, 2013
Policy revised: October 14, 2014

NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Milford, Connecticut