

## **Exclusions and Exemptions From Instruction**

Parents or guardians may request their student be excused from participation in specific learning activities because of religious beliefs by submitting their request in writing to the classroom teacher. This request is to include the name of the child and the specific activity for which the request is being made.

The District will consider requests made for the following specific activities:

1. Sex Education
2. Theory of Evolution
3. Rhythms in Physical Education
4. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
5. Halloween Activities
6. Recognized Religious Holidays

The District will exercise the following procedures for each of the above:

1. Sec Education  
Students are excused to the library during lecture and discussion on issues dealing with sex education. The student will be held responsible for the physiological information and data of sex education.
2. Theory of Evolution  
Students will be excused from participating, however, may be required to substitute the activity with alternative written work.
3. Rhythms  
Students will be excused from participating, however, may be required to substitute the activity with alternative written work.
4. Pledge of Allegiance  
Students will be required to stand, however, will not be required to salute or recite.
5. Halloween and Religious Holidays  
Students will be excused from these activities and will be given alternative activities or time to work in those academic areas which they need additional work. Students will be excused from school on the afternoon of the parties. Parents will be responsible for transportation home.

Parents or guardians may request alternatives to the state required educational programs or activities. The request must be in written form which specifically identifies the state required educational program or activity for which exemption is being requested, specifically addresses a proposed alternative, and the educational advantages which result from the proposed alternative.

The District shall evaluate the proposed alternative as to consistency and coordination with the student's educational progress and career goals. The proposal will be evaluated by the building principal, parents or guardians, counselor and other staff as may be required by the building principal. The building principal shall make a formal recommendation to the Superintendent which will include, but not be limited to, the

following: 1. Written request from parent or guardian. 2. Written summary of evaluation concerning the student's educational progress and career goals. 3. Written plan to provide the alternative. 4. Budget analysis of any additional costs which may be necessary in order to provide the alternative.

The Superintendent will, within five working days, approve or disapprove the alternative. If disapproved, the committee may reconvene and determine other alternatives or may request the alternative be placed on the next Board agenda for discussion.

The Board decision shall be final and binding on all parties.

END OF POLICY

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**Legal Reference(s):**

OAR 581-22-415