

Administrative Procedure 206 - Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation and Human Sexuality Topics

Background

The Division will provide gender identity, sexual orientation and human sexuality instruction as mandated through the grades 4 through 6 Health Program, the grades 7 through 9 Health and Personal Life Skills Program and Senior High School Life Management (CALM 20 Course).

In accordance with the Education Act Section 58.1 and Ministerial Order 028/2024, parents/guardians must be notified and must provide written consent before a student receives formal instruction on human sexuality education.

Procedures

1. Parent Notification and Consent

1.1. Principals shall ensure parents are notified at least 30 calendar days in advance of any planned instruction specifically addressing gender identity, sexual orientation, or human sexuality.

1.2. Written notification must include:

- The grade(s) and subject(s) in which the topics will be addressed
- The scheduled date(s) of instruction
- The name(s) of the teacher(s) providing instruction
- The Opt-In Form (School Engage)

1.3. Notification may be communicated via:

- School/Class newsletter or formal parent letter
- School website
- Direct distribution of Form 206-1 (Through School Engage)

2. Opt-In Requirement

2.1. Instruction on these topics may only proceed for students whose parents/guardians have returned a completed Opt-In form (Form 206-1).

2.2. Consent is valid only for the school year in which it is given. New consent is required annually.

2.3. Absence of a completed Opt-In form shall be treated as non-consent.

3. Alternative Learning

3.1. Students who do not Opt-In must be provided with meaningful alternative learning

activities that are educationally appropriate and supervised.

3.2. No academic penalty shall result from not participating in the human sexuality instruction.

4. Resources

4.1. Principals must ensure that all resources used for instruction in gender identity, sexual orientation, or human sexuality:

- Are aligned with Alberta Education's Programs of Study
- Are authorized by the Minister of Education

4.2. External presenters or third-party resources may only be used if both the materials and the individuals have received explicit Ministerial approval.

5. Incidental Classroom Discussion

5.1. The Opt-In requirement does not apply to incidental or spontaneous classroom discussions on topics of gender identity, sexual orientation, or human sexuality that are not part of planned instruction.

References: 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

Effective: 1997-12-11

Amended: 2016-09-22; 2021-04-04, 2025-07-25