

Exhibit A

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICY – HB 8

I. Sexuality Content

Instruction involving “sexuality content” shall not be provided to students in grades K-3 by either school staff or third parties. Any sexuality content shall be “age-appropriate” and “developmentally appropriate” for the age of the student receiving such instruction, regardless of age or grade level.

Before providing instruction that includes sexuality content or permitting a third party to do so, parents are to be given an opportunity to review any instructional material. Upon the request of a student’s parent, the school must excuse that student from that type of instruction and permit the student to participate in an alternative assignment.

II. Student Healthcare and Well-being

Before providing any type of health care service to the student, including physical, mental, and behavioral health care services, authorization must be obtained from the students’ parents. A parent may choose whether to authorize the school to provide a health care service to the parent's child.

At the beginning of each school year, the school shall notify parents of health care services offered directly or indirectly by the school and of the right to withhold consent or decline a service. Parental consent to health care services does not waive the parents’ right to access the student’s educational or health records or to be notified about a change in the student’s services or monitoring.

Before providing a health care service to a student, the school must notify a parent whether the school must provide the service under state law and if other options to access the service exist. This requirement may be satisfied by an annual notice to parents at the beginning of the school year. However, these notice requirements do not apply to emergency situations, first aid, other unanticipated minor health care services, or health care services provided pursuant to a student’s individualized education program (IEP) or 504 plan.

The school shall promptly notify parents about substantial changes to a student’s services or monitoring related to the student’s “mental, emotional, or physical health or wellbeing”, including counseling services, or the school’s ability to provide a safe and supportive learning environment. The notice shall reinforce the parents’ right to make decisions regarding the upbringing and control of their children and note the school will not limit their access to the school’s student education and health records.

III. Prohibition on Withholding Student Health Information

School personnel may not directly or indirectly encourage a student to withhold from a parent information about the student’s mental, emotional, or physical health or wellbeing or a change in services or monitoring. Further, school personnel shall not discourage or prohibit parental notification of and involvement in decisions affecting a student’s mental, emotional, or physical health or wellbeing.

IV. Parental Concerns

Parents may file with the principal or assistant principal written concerns related to topics covered in this policy. The school shall notify parents of this ability. A principal or assistant principal shall resolve the concern within 30 days of its receipt.

A parent may appeal the decision of the principal or assistant principal to the superintendent. Upon appeal, the superintendent or the superintendent's designee shall conduct a hearing on the decision and either affirm the principal's decision or determine a resolution to the parent's concern. The superintendent's decision may be appealed to the Board. The Board shall review the superintendent's resolution and may conduct a hearing. The Board will either affirm the superintendent's decision or determine a new resolution to the parent's concern.

This written concern procedure and appeals process do not prevent a parent from contacting a member of a board regarding the parent's concerns with the operation of a school.

V. Exceptions

This policy does not require disclosure or activity that conflicts with or violates:

1. The standards for privacy of individually identifiable health information prescribed in federal rule pursuant to the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA);
2. State law governing the use and disclosure of protected health information by specified covered entities;
3. Confidentiality privileges established for attorneys, physicians, psychologists, and certain other mental health professionals;
4. The federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA);
5. The rights of crime victims under the provisions of state law and the Ohio Constitution commonly known as *Marsy's Law*.
6. Any court order, including a condition of bond, a protection order or consent agreement issued pursuant to law, or a condition of a community control sanction, post-release control sanction, or parole.

VI. Definitions

As used in this policy:

"Sexuality content," "age-appropriate," "developmentally appropriate," and "mental, emotional, or physical health or wellbeing" and other terms used herein shall have the same meaning as those terms are defined in Ohio Revised Code 3313.473.

"Parent" includes either the natural or adoptive parents of a student and a court-appointed guardian.

Legal References

ORC 3313.473 and 3314.03

Reviewed 3_2025