

Subj: Regarding Opting Your Child Out of Certain Activities

Dear Parent or Guardian,

I am writing in response to your request to opt your child out of “LGBT-related activities.” Our school follows Illinois law and [CPS policies](#), and I am outlining below how this impacts your request in relation to our curriculum.

- Comprehensive health education is required by [law](#). However, you **are** able to opt your child out of specific Personal Health & Safety and Sexual Health Education curriculum lessons regarding sexual health education and sexual abuse prevention if you so choose. It is not recommended to opt your child out of these lessons as they contain a range of important topics for your child including how to recognize dangerous situations and stay safe. You can review [the scope and sequence](#) of lessons to learn what topics are taught for each grade level. As the curriculum is only available to trained instructors, we are unable to share copies of lessons. You are welcome to request a virtual or in-person meeting with your child’s teacher to review the curriculum and ask questions about what will be taught.

If you want to opt your child out of specific Personal Health & Safety and Sexual Health Education lessons, **you must notify the school in writing**. Any student who is opted out will work independently on alternative assignments and will not be penalized academically or receive other consequences.

- You **are not** able to opt your child out of lessons related to the [Inclusive Curriculum Law](#), including the requirement that public schools in Illinois must teach students about contributions to state and U.S. history made by lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people by the time students complete eighth grade.

Lessons related to the Inclusive Curriculum Law reflect the District’s core values of teaching students not to discriminate against others or engage in bias-based harm, as well as creating a safe, welcoming school environment for every student.

Topics that will be covered that are related to the Inclusive Curriculum Law this school year will be delineated in a syllabus by the classroom teacher. Alternative assignments related to these topics will not be provided as a substitution for these legally mandated lessons. If you choose to opt your child out of these related assignments, they may not receive credit.

If you have any concerns, I highly recommend requesting a conversation with your child's teacher.

Student attendance at school events or activities that are not part of the curriculum is encouraged, but not required.

Please let us know if you have any questions about this message.

Sincerely,

The Administration of Rickover Naval Academy