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**School Committee Policy:**

**#634**

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## **Parental Notification Relative to Sex Education**

In accordance with General Laws Chapter 71, Section 32A, the Maynard School Committee has adopted this policy on the rights of parents and guardians of our students in relation to curriculum that primarily involves human sexual education or human sexuality issues.

At the beginning of each school year, all parents/guardians of students in our schools will be notified in Student/Parent Handbook of the courses and curriculum we offer that primarily involve human sexuality issues. The Superintendent of Schools will determine the administrators responsible for sending the notices. Parents/guardians of students who enroll in school after the start of the school year will be given the written notice at the time of enrollment.

If planned curriculum change occurs during the school year, to the extent practicable, parents/guardians will be notified in a timely manner before implementation.

Each notice to parents/guardians will include a brief description of the curriculum covered by this policy, and will inform parents/guardians that they may:

1. exempt their child from any portion of the curriculum that primarily involves human sexual education or human sexual issues, without penalty to the student, by sending a letter to the principal requesting an exemption. Any student who is exempted by request of the parent/guardian under this policy may be given an alternative assignment.
2. inspect and review instructional materials for these curricula, which will be made reasonably accessible to parents/guardians and others to the extent practicable. Parents/guardians may arrange with the principal to review the materials at the school and may also review them at other locations that may be determined by the Superintendent of Schools.

A parent/guardian who is not satisfied with a decision of the principal concerning notice, access to instructional materials, or exemption for the student under this policy may send a written request to the Director of Curriculum/Assistant Superintendent for review of the issue. The Director of Curriculum/Assistant Superintendent will review the issue and give the parent/guardian a timely written decision, preferably within two weeks of the request. A parent/guardian who is dissatisfied with the Director of Curriculum's/Assistant Superintendent's

decision may send a written request to the Superintendent of Schools for review of the issue. The Superintendent of Schools will review the issue and give the parent/guardian a timely written decision, preferably within four weeks of the request. A parent/guardian who is still not satisfied may send a written request to the Chair of the Maynard School Committee for review of the issue. The Chair will render a written decision, preferably within two weeks of the request. A parent/guardian who is still dissatisfied after this process may send a written request to the Commissioner of Education for review of the issue in the dispute.

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