



NOAH WEBSTER EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION PARENT OPT-OUT FORM

BACKGROUND: This form is for parents/legal guardians to use to opt their student out of instruction and activities that may conflict with their sincerely held religious beliefs. The basis of this opt-out request is the U.S. Supreme Court’s affirmation of parents’ constitutional right of free exercise of religion in the case of *Mahmoud v. Taylor*. This form was developed with the aid of the [Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty parent resources](#).¹ Please remove this cover page before sending it to your child’s school administrator for opt-out.

LEGAL ADVISORY: Noah Webster Educational Foundation is not a law firm, nor does it claim any legal expertise. Please do not misconstrue any Noah Webster Educational Foundation resources as legal advice and consult with a personal attorney on legal matters if necessary.

¹ Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty, “Parent Opt Out Form,” Parents, n.d., <https://will-law.org/parents/>

Dear School Administrator,

The U.S. Supreme Court has issued a ruling as of June 27, 2025 in the decision of *Mahmoud v. Taylor*, which affirmed parents' constitutional right to exercise their religious rights freely, which allows parents to excuse their student(s) from public school instruction that conflicts with their family's sincerely held religious beliefs.

I formally request with this opt out form that my student be excused from the below-described instruction or activity following this U.S. Supreme Court decision and in accordance with our family's sincerely held religious beliefs.

Our student, [STUDENT'S NAME HERE], is in [STUDENT'S GRADE]. His/Her teacher is [TEACHER'S NAME].

Our family is [RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION] and in accordance with our sincerely held religious beliefs and the Mahmoud decision, we are exercising our right to opt our student, [CHILD'S NAME HERE], out of the following categories of classroom instruction or school-sponsored activities (definitions of which may be found on Page 2):

- ☐ Gender Ideology and Pride-Themed Instruction or Events
- ☐ Sex Education
- ☐ Race Instruction
- ☐ Religious Rituals or Practices
- ☐ Surveys and Questionnaires
- ☐ Mandated Use of Preferred Pronouns
- ☐ Gender Identity Policies

I understand books pertaining to such topics may be available in the school or classroom library. I am opting out of having these books recommended, promoted, or personally offered to my student by school personnel.

Request for Alternative Assignment:

When applicable, I request that the school provide my student with reasonable alternative work or assignments that align with the learning objectives without conflicting with our religious beliefs as indicated above.

Request for Advance Notice:

When applicable, I request to receive advance notice each time my student will be removed from content or activities due to this opt-out request, particularly when the school's response may involve removal from the classroom or an alternative assignment. If advance notice is not possible, I request to receive notice if my student is removed from content or activities due to this opt-out request.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Definitions of Opt Out Materials

Gender Ideology and Pride-Themed Instruction or Events - Instructional content or school-sponsored activities (such as “Pride” celebrations) that present gender identity as fluid, socially constructed, or disconnected from biological sex, affirm nonbinary or transgender identities as objective truth, promote LGBTQ+ identities, or in any other form attempt to introduce and instruct students on sexual orientations/identities.

Sex Education - Instruction or materials addressing human sexuality, sexual behavior, sexual orientation, or relationships in ways that encourage students to discuss or affirm such matters, particularly where such content is presented outside of a formal, age-appropriate health curriculum.

Race Instruction - Instructional content or activities that treat individuals or racial groups differently based on race or ethnicity. This would include instruction or activities teaching that some races are privileged or disadvantaged because of their race; that America is an inherently racist country founded on racist principles; that individuals should experience guilt or discomfort because of their race; that different races have inherent or fixed traits or shared experiences because of their race; that racial groups should be treated “equitably” to make up for past discrimination; or that all racial disparities among groups are the result of past discrimination against those groups. These theories are contrary to our religious beliefs and human dignity and equality.

Religious Rituals or Practices - Activities involving meditation, chanting, prayer, movement practices like yoga, whirling, or Tai Chi, spiritual practices, or participation in rituals from religions or belief systems not our own.

Surveys and Questionnaires - Any student surveys, evaluations, or questionnaires—especially those addressing sexuality, mental health, family relationships, or religious beliefs—administered without prior parental review and consent, as protected under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA).

Mandated Use of Preferred Pronouns - Any policy that requires a child to use pronouns or affirm gender identities other than male or female based on biological sex.

Gender Identity Policies - Any policies requiring or permitting school personnel to address a child using a name or pronouns inconsistent with a child’s biological sex.