

## NOAH WEBSTER EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION PARENT NOTIFICATION FOR SCHOOLBOARDS

**BACKGROUND:** This parent notification and opt-out form is for school boards to send to parents, making them aware of their right to have their student opt out of instruction and activities that may conflict with their sincerely held religious beliefs. The basis of this notification and opt-out request is the U.S. Supreme Court’s affirmation of parents’ constitutional rights in the case of *Mahmoud v. Taylor*. This notice was developed with the aid of the [Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty parent resources](#).<sup>1</sup> Please remove this cover page before sending it to parents in your school district.

**LEGAL ADVISORY:** Noah Webster Educational Foundation is not a law firm and does not claim legal expertise. Please consult your school district’s attorney and applicable state laws and codes when evaluating model policies from Noah Webster Educational Foundation.

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

Dear Parents,

This notice is being sent to you as a result of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in June 2025, in the case of *Mahmoud v. Taylor*. The ruling issued in this case affirms parents' constitutional right to excuse their children from public school instruction that conflicts with their religious beliefs.

As a school board, we are taking the time to make you aware of these rights and to provide you with the opportunity to opt your student out of the instructions and events below if they conflict with your family's sincerely held religious beliefs.

**I am hereby acknowledging that I would like to opt my student out of any instruction or events related to the following subjects because they conflict with our family's sincerely held religious beliefs:**

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

**Please mark the box to acknowledge and affirm the requests listed below:**

I am opting out of school personnel recommending, promoting, or personally offering any library or classroom books on any of these topics to my students.

I formally request that, when applicable, my student be provided with reasonable alternative work or assignments that meet the district's standards and align with learning objectives without introducing topics, resources, assignments, activities, or other related learning materials that conflict with our religious beliefs.

I formally request that, when applicable, I receive advance notice of my student's removal from any content or activities due to the contents of this opt-out request. I request this advance notice each time my student is removed from content, instruction, or activities, especially if this removal warrants absence from the classroom or an alternative assignment. If notice cannot be given in advance, I request to be notified of my student's removal from content, instruction, or activities due to the content of this opt-out request.

**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Student's Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/guardians submitting this opt-out request should include a concise explanation of their decision to opt out. If the opt-out is being submitted on a religious basis, the only necessary explanation for submitting the request is your religious status (such as the religion your family practices and a brief affirmation of these deeply held religious beliefs). If this request is being submitted on a moral beliefs basis apart from religious beliefs, please provide a concise explanation of how these subjects, topics, or activities conflict with the moral affirmations of your family.

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**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_