

BOARD POLICY
Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District

Instruction

6144.1 - BP

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALTERNATIVE ASSIGNMENTS OR ACTIVITIES

I. Purpose

A student may be provided with an alternative assignment or activity if a student's or parent/guardian's deeply held personal beliefs or personal experiences may be adversely impacted by that instruction, assignment, or activity. This policy is intended to recognize that students and families bring unique personal experiences to the classroom, and those personal experiences color how students interact with and are impacted by the curriculum and activities in the classroom.

II. Request Procedure

To receive an alternative assignment or activity, the parent/guardian must submit a written request to the school principal. The request must clearly state the specific instructional content or activity involved and the nature of the impact on the student.

The school principal shall inform the teacher of the request and, if there are questions of how to best meet the needs of the student, shall meet with the parent/guardian with sufficient time prior to the due date for the assignment or activity to collaborate and discuss the request.

III. Denial of Request

A request for exemption shall be denied for the following reasons:

- **Discrimination:** The request seeks to avoid content or instruction relating to legally protected classes of individuals defined in Education Code section 220 and the District's non-discrimination policy. (Note: This policy does not restrict or limit the opt-out procedures provided by the California Healthy Youth Act or Board Policy/Administrative Regulation 6141.2)
- **Graduation Requirements:** Granting the alternative assignment would prevent the student from meeting the District's or State's requirements for high school graduation.
- **State Standards:** Requests to opt out of content specifically required by California State Content Standards shall be denied.

IV. Student Alternative Activity

If a request is granted:

- Where a request seeks an alternative to an individual classroom activity, the student may be provided an opportunity to engage in a quiet, independent activity (such as quiet reading or working on homework) in a designated area.
- Where a request seeks an alternative book or other substantive assignment, and that book or substantive assignment is not specifically required by the applicable California State Content Standards the District may provide an alternative book or substantive activity to satisfy the requirements of the learning objective.
- **Note:** The District is not required to provide alternative learning experiences, instructional materials, or replacement curriculum.

V. Review and Decision

All requests will be reviewed and addressed in writing by the Superintendent or their designee.

Legal Reference

<u>Education Code</u>	200-262.4	Prohibition of discrimination
<u>Board Policy</u>	5143.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment