

## **Process to Request Student Opt-Out for Sincerely Held Religious Beliefs**

In response to the June 2025 U.S. Supreme Court opinion in *Mahmoud v. Taylor*, which affirmed expanded parental notice and opt-out rights concerning certain instructional content, RUSD will implement the following process, effective for the 2025-26 school year and going forward.

- All TK-12 board adopted curricula will be available for parent review.
- To schedule an appointment to review curricula, please complete this <u>Curricula Review</u>
  <u>Request Form</u>. Once this form has been submitted, a representative from the Educational Services department will confirm the request via email and provide specific instructions.
- Upon review of the curricula, should a parent identify any curricular content that interferes with sincerely held religious beliefs, they may request to opt their student out of this content by completing this Religious Opt-Out Request Form.
- All information shared in the opt-out request is confidential and will only be shared with specific RUSD staff involved in the education of the child.
- All opt-out requests will be evaluated based on the following criteria:
  - Does the request identify specific content in a content area?
  - Are there sincere religious beliefs that the specific content substantially interferes with?
- When a religious opt-out request is granted, the school will be informed of the request. The school will then communicate with the parent about the implementation of the opt-out request.
- Depending on the specific content that the student is removed from, there may or may not be appropriate alternative educational activities for the opted-out student. At a minimum, RUSD will provide academic work and supervision during the time the student is removed from instruction.
- Information about students being opted-out from specific content will be confidential. Students will not experience adverse consequences, such as grade penalties, for opting out.

If you have any questions about the student opt-out process, please contact Donna Holmes (dholmes@rocklinusd.org).