



Understanding The Proposed Health Education Standards For Nebraska Schools

WHAT'S GOING ON?

In March of 2021, for the first time ever, the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) released a proposal for health education standards written by political activists without input from parents or key mainstream organizations. If approved by the Nebraska State Board of Education, local school boards would be asked to adopt the new health education standards.

The first draft sought to promote abortion and transgenderism, teach children that gender is fluid, and inject activist talking points into curriculum and classrooms. After several months of feedback and overwhelming opposition from parents, the NDE released a second draft of proposed health education standards.

Parents and educators across the state delivered a clear message to the NDE and State Board of Education, and while this led to much of the most objectionable content being removed, serious issues and questions remain in the second draft.

Concerned citizens continued to speak out, and on September 3rd, 2021, the State Board of Education voted to indefinitely postpone development of the health education standards. The issue can be brought back if a majority of board members vote to re-engage their work on the standards.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR CHILDREN IN NEBRASKA?

The State Board of Education is not required or mandated by state law to write or implement health education standards, but if they choose to do so, it will ultimately influence what schools and educators are expected to teach schoolchildren in Nebraska.

Parents are the primary educators of their own children, and parents should be left to work with educators at the local level to determine what is and is not appropriate in the classroom for their child—not the Nebraska Department of Education.

Kindergarteners and elementary students should not be subjected to sexualized, nonfactual, and age-inappropriate content from their teachers and explicit messages and images in classrooms. The State Board of Education and NDE must let parents and guardians determine how to teach their children about sex education and sensitive topics.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

While the health education standards have been indefinitely postponed, our work isn't done and all Nebraskans must remain diligent in following educational matters at local and state levels. The State Board of Education can vote to re-engage development of the health education standards at any time if a majority of board members vote to do so.

NFA will continue serving as a watchman on the wall—monitoring board meetings, influencing policy, educating the public, and mobilizing the grassroots, while working to defend our values, the rights of parents, and our children's future.

We encourage parents, educators, and all Nebraskans to contact their representative on the State Board of Education, contact and work with their local school board and school superintendent to keep comprehensive sex education out of their school, and remain diligent in following educational matters at local and state levels.

PARENT ACTION CENTER



CONTACT



Visit our website **to find who represents you** and your family on the State Board of Education!

Contact your representatives on the State Board of Education and local school board, and urge them to oppose the proposed standards and comprehensive sex education. Find example emails and talking points on: nebraskafamilyalliance.org



SHARE



Print copies of this guide, and share information on your social media!

Share this information with your family, friends, neighbors, and church. Encourage them to contact their representative on the State Board of Education about this issue. Access additional resources online at: nebraskafamilyalliance.org



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PRAY



"The effective, fervent prayers of a righteous man avails much." James 5:16

Pray children and parental rights are protected in Nebraska. Ask for the State Board of Education members to have guidance as they make important decisions.