



The New America School-Las Cruces

Opt-Out Policy

The New America Public School/Charter School Policy for allowing Sexuality Performance Standards Exemption for Health Education.

Parents have the ability to request that their child be exempted from the parts of the required health education curriculum that address the sexuality performance standards. Students should not be exempted from the entire class only the lessons addressing the sexuality performance standards. The following procedure must be followed in order to request and exemption from the parts of the health education curriculum that addresses the sexuality performance standards. This procedure should be looked upon as a partnership between the parents and the school, designed to best meet the needs of each student and family. The following steps must be taken.

- A. The parent must contact the teacher and request a meeting.
- B. The parent and teachers (and administrator if deemed necessary) should review the entire curriculum and come to an agreement to identify specifically what areas of the sexuality performance standards to exempt the student.
- C. The teacher should supply the parents with the state standards that are met by the requested exempt lessons and agree upon an alternative assignment(s) that will meet these standards.
- D. A written agreement should be drawn up that includes the following:
 1. Specific dates the student will be out of class.
 2. Where and to whom the student is to report on these days.
 3. The assignment that has been agreed upon by both teacher and parent(s).
 4. The standards that are being met.
 5. How the student will be evaluated for this assignment.
 6. Principal's approval.

The teacher should make available any resources (lesson plans, books, and videos) that are ordinarily used in the class or are available as alternative materials. However, the parent may use alternative materials that meet the state standards.

NAS Board President

Date

The New America School
Health Education Graduation Course Requirement Plan

District/Charter High School Name: The New America School-Las Cruces

Superintendent/Director of Charter High School: Margarita L. Porter, EdS

Address: 207 South Main Street Las Cruces, NM 88001

Email: mporter@newamericaschoolnm.org

Phone (include area code): 575-527-9085

Fax (include area code): 575-527-7153

The above named district/charter high school will fulfill the health education graduation requirement by providing a course in health education in high school.

School year course will be implemented 2015-16

Note: For students entering the eighth grade in the 2012-2013 school year and subsequent years a course in health education is required for graduation.

Grade-level(s) course will be offered

- 9th
- 10th
- 11th
- 12th

Amount of Credits for Health Education Course Completion

- .5 unit
- 1.0 unit

Select one:

The above named district/charter high school **has** Public Education Department licensed teacher(s) with an endorsement in Health Education will be teaching the required course. **Submit the name(s) and license number(s) of these teacher(s) as part of the implementation plan.**

Teacher Name	Licensure number (hit tab key to expand)
Carla Atkins	266794

- The above named district / charter high school has aligned the health education course to the New Mexico Health Education Content Standards with the 9-12 Benchmarks and Performance Standards

The New America School will review transfer student transcripts for health education credit and ensure transfer students and/or students failing the course meet the graduation requirement by (check all that apply):

- enrolling students in the districts/charter high school course during the regular school year
- offering health education in summer school
- other :Online course via E2020 program.

- The above named district / charter high school has an opt-out policy that meets all requirements of **6.29.6.11 NMAC: Sexuality Performance Standards Exemption** which requires each school district or charter school to implement a policy that will ensure that parents have the ability to request that their child be exempted from the parts of the health education curriculum that address sexuality performance standards. The policy shall include, but is not limited to: 1) the process for parents to request an exemption from the parts of the health education curriculum that address the sexuality performance standards; and 2) how alternative lessons are established for the exempted parts of the curriculum. In addition, each local board of education or governing body of a charter school shall ensure the involvement of parents, staff and students in the development of the policy. **The opt-out policy with minutes of School Board/Governing Body approval must be submitted on the CD as part the implementation plan.**

Effective date: August 11th, 2013

To be revised: June, 2019

Approved by the Governing Council on

Date: February 11, 2016