

St. Louis Park Public Schools Media Statement

At St. Louis Park Schools, we are proud of our literacy program, which includes books with racially and culturally diverse families and characters as well as LGBTQ+ families and characters. We are committed to ensuring that the district's learning communities honor and respect the identities of all of our students, families, staff and broader community, including diverse gender identity and gender expression.

St. Louis Park Public Schools has always complied with the state law regarding parents' statutory right to opt out of instructional materials, and we will continue to do so. Our policy around reviewing instructional materials and seeking alternative curriculum is based on state law and has been in place since 2006. We have clarified our procedures across all schools to ensure a collaborative and consistent approach to requests for alternative curriculum and provided information to all families about the process for seeking alternative curriculum.

St. Louis Park Schools will continue to make our curriculum available to families to review. However, district staff will not conduct that review on behalf of any families or attempt to determine what materials may be considered objectionable. Additionally, class discussions do not constitute instructional materials and are not subject to review or opt outs.

Opt-outs based on representation of protected classes do not uphold our values of creating safe and inclusive learning and working environments in our schools. However, because it is required within state law, any change would need to happen with the involvement of state lawmakers.