



# BHUSD Religious Belief-Based Curriculum Opt-Out Request Form

September 2025

This form provides parents/guardians with the option to request that their child be excused from specific instructional content when it may conflict with a parent or family's religious upbringing of their child pursuant to that parent or family's sincerely held religious beliefs. The request and district's response is dependent upon the specific religious beliefs and practices asserted as well as the specific nature of the educational requirement or curricular feature at issue.

Each request will be reviewed by the school to determine the appropriate response based on the nature of the request and the instructional context. Submitting this form does not automatically result in a student being excused from the identified content, and alternative arrangements will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Parent/Guardian Name: |        |
| Student Name:         |        |
| School:               | Grade: |
| Teacher:              | Class: |

## Instructional Content in Conflict with Religious Beliefs

Requests must clearly identify the specific lesson(s), topic(s), book (s), or material(s) from which the student is to be excused. The burden shall not fall on the teacher to determine which content may conflict with a family's beliefs.

Parents/guardians have the right to review curriculum materials before making this request, as outlined in Education Code §§ 51101 and 51938. To support an informed decision, curriculum materials are available upon request from the school site.

## Instructional Content for Opt-Out Request

Identify the specific instructional material including the type, name and/or title of the material (e.g., title of storybook, lesson, or unit).

|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|

## Explanation of Conflict

Explain how the specific instructional content substantially interferes with the religious upbringing of your child in accordance with your sincerely held religious beliefs.

|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|

**Statement of Religious Conflict**

By signing below, I affirm that the content described substantially conflicts with my family's sincerely held religious beliefs, and I request that my child be excused from this portion of instruction.

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Date:

Submit the completed form to your child's teacher and the site administrator no later than one week prior to the scheduled opt-out lesson.

**For School Use**

Request received: [DATE]

Request processed: [DATE]

Request approval status: [DATE]

☐ Approved

☐ Denied

School Staff Signature:

Reason for Denial: