



## ELA Opt-out Checklist for Elementary School Parents

1. Be specific with your principal about what you intend to opt-out of. Provide:
  - a. Your child's name
  - b. Grade, class
  - c. Books to opt out
  - d. Lessons to opt out
  
2. What is the alternative curriculum being offered?
  - a. There should be a lesson plan for your child(ren)
  - b. How will your child get attention if he/she needs assistance?
  - c. Assignments should parallel what is happening in the classroom
  - d. The alternate text should be grade-level appropriate
  - e. The alternate text should be of sufficient scope, depth, and comparable difficulty
  
3. Questions to ask:
  - a. Where will my child(ren) be placed for the alternative curriculum?
  - b. Who will be supervising/teaching my child during the alternative curriculum?
  - c. If my child has an IEP or 504 plan, how will their required accommodations be met in this setting?
  
4. Indicate your expectation to see any and all assignment(s), including formative and summative assessments.



**KNOW YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS:**

Here is the link for **TN Department of Education State Statutory Rights of Parents and Students**. We recommend you familiarize yourself with these statutes:

[https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/education/legal/2020\\_legal\\_state\\_statutory\\_rights\\_of\\_parents\\_and\\_students.pdf](https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/education/legal/2020_legal_state_statutory_rights_of_parents_and_students.pdf)

With regards to the mental health evaluations that were initiated by the Education Commissioner, you can reference TCA 49-2-124 for Parents' right to refuse consent. For quick reference, here is what the TCA states (it can also be found in the link above):

**T.C.A. § 49-2-124.**

Parents may refuse to consent to the administration of a psychotropic medication to a student or to a mental health screening, evaluation, testing or examination of a child or student. An LEA or school shall notify parents or legal guardians of the purpose for the mental health screening, the provider or contractor providing the mental health screening, the date and time at which the mental health screening is scheduled, and the length of time the mental health screening may last.

**Additional Documents:**

TN Teacher Code of Ethics

[https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/stateboardofeducation/documents/TN\\_Teacher\\_Code\\_of\\_Ethics.pdf](https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/stateboardofeducation/documents/TN_Teacher_Code_of_Ethics.pdf)

Williamson County Board of Education Policies

<https://tsba.net/williamson-county-board-of-education-policy-manual/>