

## 2 414 - REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING

These guidelines have been developed to assist staff in implementing the District's program for sex education and AIDS education. The term sex education will include instruction related to reproductive health and family planning, human sexuality, emotional, physical, psychological, hygienic, economic, and social aspects of family life, venereal diseases, noncasual-contact communicable diseases such as AIDS, and abstinence from sex as a responsible method for restriction and prevention of noncasual-contact communicable diseases and as a positive life-style for unmarried young people.

The District curriculum shall emphasize:

- A. Instruction on human immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome shall emphasize that abstinence from sex is a positive lifestyle for unmarried young people because abstinence is the only protection that is 100% effective against unplanned pregnancy, sexually transmitted disease, and sexually transmitted human immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome;
- B. Use of material and instruction in the sex education curriculum that discusses sex shall be age-appropriate, shall be medically accurate, and shall do at least all of the following:
  1. Discuss the benefits of abstaining from sex until marriage and the benefits of ceasing sex if a student is sexually active.
  2. Include a discussion of the possible emotional, economic, and legal consequences of sex.
  3. Stress that unplanned pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases are serious possibilities of sex that are not fully preventable except by abstinence.
  4. Advise students of the laws pertaining to their responsibility as parents to children born in and out of wedlock.
  5. Ensure that students are not taught in a way that condones the violation of the laws of this State pertaining to sexual activity, including, but not limited to first, second, third, and fourth degree criminal sexual conduct; gross indecency between male and female persons, between male persons, between female persons as well as sodomy with mankind or with any animal.
  6. Teach students how to say "no" to sexual advances and that it is wrong to take advantage of, harass, or exploit another person sexually.
  7. Teach refusal skills and encourage students to resist pressure to engage in risky behavior.
  8. Teach that the student has the power to control personal behavior. Students shall be taught to base their actions on reasoning, self-discipline, a sense of responsibility, self-control, and ethical considerations such as respect for self and others.
  9. Provide instruction on healthy dating relationships and on how to set limits and recognize a dangerous environment.
  10. Provide information for students about how young parents can learn more about adoption services and about the provisions of the safe delivery of newborns.
  11. Include information clearly informing students that having sex or sexual contact with an individual under the age of sixteen (16) is a crime punishable by imprisonment and that

the conviction of this crime requires listing on the sex offender registry on the Internet for up to twenty-five (25) years.

- C. Include behavioral risk reduction strategies, as defined by law, that are not 100% effective against unplanned pregnancy, sexually transmitted disease, and sexually transmitted human immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome.

### **Sex Education Advisory Board**

The Board of Education shall not offer instruction in sex education, including family planning and human sexuality, prior to appointment and meeting of the Advisory Board.

The Board shall appoint and shall determine terms of service for the Sex Education Advisory Board, the number of members to serve on the advisory board, and a membership selection process that reasonably reflects the District population, and shall appoint two (2) co-chairs for the Advisory Board, at least one (1) of whom is a parent of a child attending a school in the District.

At least one-half (1/2) of the members of the Sex Education Advisory Board shall be parents who have a child attending a school operated by the District, and a majority of these parent members shall be individuals who are not employed by the District. The Advisory Board shall include students of the District, educators, local clergy, and community health professionals.

Written or electronic notice of a Sex Education Advisory Board meeting shall be sent to each member at least two (2) weeks before the date of the meeting.

### **Role of the Sex Education Advisory Board**

The Advisory Board shall do all of the following:

- A. Establish program goals and objectives for student knowledge and skills that are likely to reduce the rates of sex, pregnancy, and sexually transmitted diseases.
- B. Review the materials and methods of instruction used and make recommendations to the Board of the School District for implementation. The Advisory Board shall take into consideration the school district's needs, demographics, and trends, including, but not limited to, teenage pregnancy rates, sexually transmitted disease rates, and incidents of student sexual violence and harassment.
- C. At least once every two (2) years, evaluate, measure, and report the attainment of program goals and objectives established by Sex Education Advisory Board (SEAB). The Board of a School District shall make the resulting report available to parents in the School District.
- D. Before adopting any revisions in the materials or methods used in instruction including, but not limited to, revisions to provide for the teaching of abstinence from sex as a method of preventing unplanned or out-of-wedlock pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease, public hearings must be held. At least two (2) public hearings on the proposed revisions must be held. The hearings shall be held at least one (1) week apart and public notice of the hearings shall be given in the manner required under the Open Meetings Act.

A person shall not dispense or otherwise distribute in a public school or on public school property a family planning drug or device.

A Confirmation Checklist (2413/2414 F2) has been prepared which is based on the Michigan Department of Education's sex education guidelines and is designed to ensure that the program is implemented properly and minimizes concern by parents or other interested parties.

Each principal should use the Checklist in working with the school staff at the beginning of each school year. Prior to the start of the program each year, the principal shall inform parents of their rights concerning the program. (See Form 2414 F1). Also, whenever any additions or modifications are made to the program, the Board shall conduct two (2) public hearings before the program can be approved and implemented. Once the program has been started, a copy of the completed confirmation should be sent to the Superintendent's office by the time instruction begins and the original should be maintained in the school office.

In the event of a complaint about the program, the person or party should be made aware of the Board's complaint procedure described in Policy 9130. This policy is available at both the Superintendent's Office and the office of each school. Any such complaint is most likely to concern the program itself or its implementation rather than the particular person teaching the program. Therefore, as the policy indicates, the complaint is to be handled by the school's principal and not by a teacher. Be sure the complainant receives a copy of the procedure either through the mail or by coming to the office. Complaints that originate at the central office are to be handled in the same manner.

Although the law allows a student to be excused from classes but not the course, no student is to be excused from a lesson or activity in either program unless and until the parent has come to the school, reviewed the program lessons and materials, had the opportunity to observe the instruction, if so desired, and filed a complaint in accordance with Policy 9130. The principal is to make sure the materials are available and that any complaint is focussed on a particular topic or type of activity rather than on general reactions.

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