

Two units of instruction will be provided for the Reproductive Health Education Program for grades 7 through 9. Parents and legal guardians shall have the opportunity to select either of the units, both of the units, or none of the units.

State statute requires each school administrative unit to provide a reproductive health and safety education program commencing in the seventh grade that includes the following instruction:

UNIT ONE: ABSTINENCE-BASED CURRICULUM

- A. Teaches abstinence from sexual activity outside of marriage is the expected standard for all school-age children.
- B. Presents techniques and strategies to deal with peer pressure and offering positive reinforcement.
- C. Presents reasons, skills and strategies for remaining or becoming abstinent from sexual activity.
- D. Teaches abstinence from sexual activity as the only certain means of avoiding out-of-wedlock pregnancy; sexually transmitted diseases when transmitted through sexual contact, including HIV/AIDS; and other associated health and emotional problems.
- E. Teaches that a mutually faithful, monogamous heterosexual relationship in the context of marriage is the best lifetime means of avoiding sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS.
- F. Teaches the positive benefits of abstinence until marriage and the risks of pre-marital sexual activity.
- G. Provides opportunities that allow for interaction between the parent or legal guardian and the student.
- H. Provides factually accurate biological or pathological information that is related to the human reproductive system.

UNIT TWO: REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND SAFETY EDUCATION

Each local school administrative unit shall include in addition to the above instructional points the following instruction:

- A. Teaches about sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Instruction shall include how sexually transmitted diseases are and are not transmitted, the effectiveness and safety of all federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved methods of reducing the risk of contacting sexually transmitted diseases, and information on local resources for testing and medical care for sexually transmitted diseases. Instruction shall include the rates of infection among pre-teens and teens of each known sexually

transmitted disease and the effects of contracting each transmitted disease. In particular, the instruction shall include information about the effects of contracting the Human Papilloma Virus, including sterility and cervical cancer.

- B. Teaches about the effectiveness and safety of all FDA approved contraceptive methods in preventing pregnancy.
- C. Teaches awareness of sexual assault, sexual abuse and risk reduction. The instruction and materials shall:
1. Focus on healthy relationships;
 2. Teach students what constitutes sexual assault and sexual abuse, the causes of those behaviors, and risk reduction;
 3. Inform students about the resources and reporting procedures if they experience sexual assault or sexual abuse; and
 4. Examine common misconceptions and stereotypes about sexual assault and sexual abuse.

Materials used in either of these units of instruction shall be age appropriate for use with students. Information conveyed during the instruction shall be objective and based upon scientific research that is peer reviewed and accepted by professionals and credentialed experts in the field of sexual health education.

Reproductive health and safety education courses of the nature discussed above, which are taught by a non-school employee or taught by a school employee, shall require a letter be sent to the parent/guardian giving the date, time, objective(s), and description of the courses. This letter shall contain a permission form for the parent/guardian to sign consenting for their child to participate in the units of instruction, or to withhold their consent and denying permission for their child to participate in the units of instruction. A permission form for each student must be returned to the student's teacher (either approved or denied) by the parent. The teacher shall submit these permission forms to the principal.

Students who do not participate in the above educational units of study shall be given an alternate assignment of a health research paper. If the permission form is not returned to the school, the student will not be allowed to participate in either unit of study.

APPROVED BY BOARD
AND EFFECTIVE _____