

HEALTH, FAMILY LIFE AND SEX EDUCATION

Health, family life, sex education and human sexuality including information about parts of the body, the study of the anatomy and the physiology of human reproduction, and characteristics or qualities that distinguish between maleness and femaleness may be included in the instructional program as appropriate to the grade level and course of study. Interested parents and community groups shall be encouraged to become involved in the planning, development, evaluation and revision of any instruction in sex education and human sexuality offered as a part of the school program. Parents may ask to review the materials to be used. Parents who wish to have their child excused from sex education and human sexuality classes may make this request by completing a form to be obtained from the principal. Students who are excused shall be provided alternative educational opportunities.

AIDS Prevention Education

The life-threatening dangers of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) and its prevention shall be taught in the district. AIDS prevention education shall be limited to the discussion of the life-threatening dangers of the disease, its spread, and prevention. Students shall receive such education at least once each school year beginning no later than the fifth grade.

The AIDS prevention education program shall be developed in consultation with teachers, administrators, parents, and other community members including, but not limited to, persons from medical, public health, and mental health organizations and agencies. The curricula and materials used in the AIDS education program may be the model curricula and resources available through SPI or, if developed by the school district, be approved for medical accuracy by the office on AIDS. District-developed curricula shall be submitted to the office on AIDS accompanied by an affidavit of medical accuracy stating that the material in the district-developed curricula has been compared to the model curricula for medical accuracy and that in the opinion of the district the district-developed materials are medically accurate. Upon submission of the

affidavit and curricula, the district may use these materials until the approval procedure to be conducted by the office of AIDS has been completed.

At least one month before teaching AIDS prevention education in any classroom the district will conduct, during convenient hours for the parents and guardians of students, at least one presentation concerning the curricula and materials that will be used for such education. The parents and guardians shall be notified of the presentation. The curricula and materials shall be available for inspection. No student may be required to participate in AIDS prevention education if the student's parent or guardian, having attended one of the district presentations, objects in writing to participation.

The curriculum for AIDS prevention education shall be designed to teach students which behaviors place a person dangerously at risk of infection by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and methods to avoid such risk including, at least:

- The dangers of drug abuse, especially that involving the use of hypodermic needles; and
- The dangers of sexual intercourse, with or without condoms.

The program of AIDS prevention education shall stress the life-threatening dangers of contracting AIDS and shall stress that abstinence from sexual activity is the only certain means for the prevention of the spread or contraction of the AIDS virus through sexual contact. The instruction shall also stress that condoms and other artificial means of birth control are not a certain means of preventing the spread of the AIDS virus; and, reliance on condoms puts an individual at risk for exposure to the disease.

Cross References:

Board Policy 3414 Infectious Diseases

Legal References:

RCW 28A.230.070 AIDS Education in public schools

WAC 180-50-140 Sex Education