

Instructional Program Relative to Human Growth and Development and Sexuality

The Board recognizes the responsibilities of both the school and the home in teaching about human growth and development and sexuality. The following procedures are established to guide the professional staff in fulfilling the responsibilities of the school.

Supportive of Traditional Values

Such programs shall:

1. Support sexual abstinence before marriage and fidelity in marriage as the expected standard in terms in public health and the only effective way to prevent crisis pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases;
2. Present contraception in the context of marriage; and
3. Present contraception as high risk behavior and its deficiencies.

Sensitivity to Students' Age and Maturity

The age and maturity of students shall be considered in the selection of instructional materials and presentations. Care shall be taken to present this information in ways that are not desensitizing and do not assault the students' modesty. When appropriate, presentations will be segregated by sex. Alternative materials and opt-out provisions will be made available for some activities.

Students who have parental permission to opt-out portions of human growth and development and sexuality education curriculum shall be assigned independent reading and writing activities covering the state-required Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). There shall be no grade penalty for those students who take this alternative. All students shall be held responsible for mastery of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills prescribed by the Texas Education Agency.

Recognition of Students' Individuality and Parent Responsibility

Parents are best able to judge the readiness of their children to receive information on human growth and development and sexuality. Therefore, the practice of the District shall be to:

1. Recognize the parents'/guardians' involvement in the formation of values for their children and to make the family central to human growth and development instruction;
2. Encourage students to consult parents and family members first for advice in the area of human sexuality;
3. Inform parents of proposed presentation of such information to their children;
4. Provide opportunities for parents to preview such materials;
5. Provide the opportunity for parents to opt-out of the human growth and development and sexuality education curriculum;

BASIC INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM
REQUIRED INSTRUCTION (ALL LEVELS)

EHAA
(LOCAL)

6. Encourage cooperation and communication among parents, community members, and the school;
7. Emphasize the positive value of sexuality within the context of marriage; and
8. Present homosexuality in conjunction with HIV-STD education in a factual manner.

**Establishment of the
School Health
Education Advisory
Council**

The Board shall determine the selection process, and the Board shall approve the School Health Education Advisory Council.