

Sex Education

Pursuant to state law, sex education may be provided by the District but must be an elective class. In order to offer this instruction, a Sex Education Advisory Board must be established. Students will not be permitted to take the class unless the student's parent/guardian is notified in advance of the course and its contents, is given an opportunity to review course materials, is allowed to observe the instruction, and is notified of the right to have the student excused from the class. (See "Parent/Guardian Notification" below.)

Sex Education Advisory Board

The Sex Education Advisory Board (hereinafter "Advisory Board") shall recommend materials and methods to the Board of Education in compliance with current statutory requirements as defined in MCL 380.1507. All instruction and materials shall be age-appropriate and medically accurate. Prior to the adoption of any revision to materials or methods of instruction in sex education, the Board of Education shall hold two public hearings. The hearings shall be held at least 1 week apart and shall be posted pursuant to MCL 380.1201.

The Advisory Board shall minimally include the constituencies described in 380.1507(5) (parents, educators, pupils, clergy, and community health professionals.) One half of the members shall be parents who have at least one child attending a school operated by the District, and a majority of those parent members shall be individuals not employed by a school District. The Board of Education shall recommend a process for selecting Advisory Board members that reflects, reasonably, the District population. One of the co-chairs leading the Advisory Board shall be a parent.

The Advisory Board must establish goals and objectives for pupil knowledge and skills designed to reduce rates of sexual activity, pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, review materials and methods and make implementation recommendations to the Board of Education. The recommendations shall incorporate the required content of MCL 380.1507b and such other material as the Advisory Board finds to be pedagogically sound.

It is recommended that the District align the curriculum to the content recommendations in the State Board of Education Policy to Promote Health and Prevent Disease and Pregnancy (September 2003.) Every two years, the Advisory Board shall evaluate, measure, and report upon attainment of the goals and objectives. The report shall be made available to the parents/guardians of the District.

To comply with the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act and Michigan Statutes, the Superintendent will, in writing, inform the professional staff of the federal requirements that apply to sex education and the prohibitions and restrictions covering distribution of contraceptives or materials that encourage sexual activities. The District will comply with federal and state guidelines concerning age appropriate sex education.

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Parent/Guardian Notification

Sex education is not to be provided to any student under the age of 18 unless the parent/guardian is notified in advance of the instruction and the content of the instruction. Parents/guardians are to be given an opportunity to review materials to be used and to have their child excused from the instruction by filing an annual or continuing written notice that the child is to be excused from the class. If a parent/guardian files a continuing written notice to exclude their child from sex education classes, present or future, the student shall not be enrolled in a sex education class at any time unless the parent/guardian submits a new, written authorization for that enrollment.

Any student is to be excused without penalty or loss of academic credit, from attending class sessions in which the instruction is provided.

Approved: October 11, 2010

LEGAL REF.: MCL 380.1282; 380.1507; 380.1507b; 380.1169; 388.1506; 380.1766; 388.1766a; 20 USCA 7906 (NCLB); State Board of Education Policy to Promote Health and Prevent Disease and Pregnancy (September 2003.)

MASB Note: The statute does not prescribe the number of members for the advisory board, and does not set a term of service. The suggestions made need not be followed and the District has discretion to set the number of members and their terms of service.