

Health and Family Life/Sex Education

The Board is committed to a comprehensive health education and health service program as an integral part of each student's general education. The health education program should emphasize contemporary health information and teach the skills and knowledge necessary for students to understand the function and care of the human body. Such education shall be in support of a parent or guardian's responsibility to assist their child in developing positive, lifelong health habits and value systems; and provide social support for their attitudes and beliefs.

The goal of the health education program is to provide students with relevant, accurate, reliable and up-to-date information and skills to make healthy decisions regarding their social, physical, emotional and mental health. Specifically, this will include strategies to support and maintain healthy choices in the standards of Wellness, Addiction and Abuse, Human Growth Development and Human Sexuality, Safety and Emergency Care, Diversity Awareness and Violence Awareness.

In health education courses, students shall be presented with information regarding the complex health related issues which can be encountered in the broad school environment as well as in society. Students will examine the cause and effect of the outcomes of health related choices. Any curriculum that includes instruction on human sexuality shall be in accordance with applicable law and the district's academic standards.

In addition to the requirements listed below, the Board's policies and regulations concerning the approval of new curriculum content, units and materials shall apply to any comprehensive health education courses offered by the district:

1. The adoption of curriculum, instructional resources and materials, and textbooks in the district's comprehensive health education courses shall follow the approved curriculum and instructional resources and materials approval process.
2. In accordance with applicable state law, students' parents/guardians shall be notified in writing prior to the student's involvement in the health education course. The notice to parents/guardians shall include a detailed, substantive outline of the topics and materials to be presented.
3. The notice shall also inform students' parents/guardians that they may exempt their child, upon written request, from a specific portion or portions of the instruction on the grounds that it is contrary to religious beliefs and teachings or closely held personal beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian. If the request for the exemption is from a specific portion of the curriculum that concerns human sexuality, no reason must be given by the parent/guardian when requesting the exemption.
4. Students shall be provided with alternate educational assignments or activities for credit corresponding to that portion of the planned curriculum from which they are exempt.

Adopted: October 23, 1996

Revised: February 9, 2005

Revised: September 12, 2007

Revised and recoded: October 28, 2015

LEGAL REFS.: 20 U.S.C. 7906 (prohibited uses of Title I funds)
C.R.S. 22-1-128 (education regarding human sexuality)
C.R.S. 22-25-105 (Colorado Comprehensive Health Education Program)
C.R.S. 22-25-106 (4) (district must provide exemption procedure)
C.R.S. 22-25-110 (2) (operation of other health education programs)

CROSS REFS.: IG, Curriculum Development
JLC, Student Health Services and Requirements, and subcodes

St. Vrain Valley School District RE-1J, Longmont, Colorado