

### **FAMILY LIFE/SEX EDUCATION**

The School Board believes that a well-planned sequence of instruction about family life and human sexuality is essential to the general education of all students. Lack of information or pervasive misinformation can cause low self-esteem, increased risk for sexually transmitted disease, unintended pregnancy or sterility, and school dropout. The district curriculum shall help students understand the biological, psychological, social, moral and ethical aspects of human sexuality.

The family life/sex education program shall encourage students to be abstinent and to conceptualize sexual behavior in the ethical and moral context of marriage. The program shall be age-appropriate and shall address a full range of topics, including parenting and birth control, and shall emphasize that abstinence from sex is the only totally effective protection against unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

Classes or programs in sex education, human reproduction education, or human sexuality education may only be instructed by a certificated teacher employed by or contracted with the district, or by an individual approved by the School Board who is supervised by a certificated teacher of the district.

Separate arrangements may be made for students according to sex during sex education programs and physical education activities involving bodily contact (*reference BP-5145.3, Nondiscrimination*).

The Superintendent or designee will inform school principals, those who teach sex education, and other appropriate school staff of federal funding restrictions regarding the distribution of contraceptives and the development and distribution of materials that may promote or encourage sexual activities

Before curriculum, literature, or materials related to sex education, human reproduction education, or human sexuality education may be used in a class or distributed in a school, the materials shall be approved by the School Board and made available for parents to review.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that family life/sex education materials and instruction are continuously evaluated in light of information received from students, parents/guardians, and teachers, including information about what students did or did not learn, whether the program was workable for the teachers, and how it can be improved.

The Superintendent or designee may appoint a Family Life/Sex Education Advisory Committee representing a divergence of viewpoints to participate in planning, implementing and evaluating the district's family life/sex education program.

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Parents/guardians shall be notified in writing at least two weeks before students are offered any instruction, description, illustration, or discussion on human reproduction or sexual matters, including human reproductive organs and their functions, processes, or diseases. This notification shall inform parents/guardians that they may review instructional materials to be used in family life, sex education instruction, may review the credentials of any presenter who is not a certificated teacher of the district, and that they may request, in writing that their child not attend the class. This notification requirement does not apply to the curricula or materials for the training mandated under AS 14.30.355-356. At the parent/guardians request, any student may be excused from any part of family life/sex education instruction.

*Legal Reference:*

ALASKA STATUTES

*14.30.016 A parent's right to direct the education of the parent's child*

*14.30.361, Sex education, human reproductive education, and human sexuality education*

*14.30.355 Sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention*

*14.30.356, Dating violence and abuse policy, training, awareness, prevention and notices*

*14.30.360 Curriculum*

UNITED STATES CODE

*Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. § 7906 as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (P.L. 114-95 December 10, 2015)*