

Instruction

FAMILY LIFE/SEX EDUCATION

BP 6142.1(a)

Note: The following optional policy may be revised or deleted based on district philosophy and needs.

Note: For districts receiving federal funds, section 7906 of the Every Student Succeeds Act sets limitations on how districts approach sexual subject matter and sex education. The law requires that federal funds *not* be used to (1) develop or distribute materials or programs that encourage or promote sexual activity, (2) distribute or aid in the distribution by any organization of obscene materials to minors on school grounds, (3) provide sex education or HIV prevention education unless that instruction is age appropriate and includes the health benefits of abstinence, or (4) operate a program of contraceptive distribution in schools. Non-federal funds may be used for these activities

The School Board believes that a wholesome, 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.

(cf. 5141.41 – Sexual Abuse, Sexual Assault and Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention)

(cf. 6020 – Parent Involvement)

(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)

(cf. 6142.2 – AIDS Instruction)

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.

The Superintendent or designee will inform district curriculum specialists, those who teach sex education, school nurses, 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. Teachers who provide instruction in family life/sex education shall have professional preparation, either preservice or in-service, in the subject area.

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,

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FAMILY LIFE/SEX EDUCATION (continued)

BP 6142.1(b)

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.

(cf. 1220 - Advisory Committees)

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. At the parent/guardian's request, any student may be excused from any part of family life/sex education instruction, except for awareness and prevention training provided to students concerning sexual assault, sexual abuse, and dating violence and abuse.

(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)

(cf. 6020 – Parent Involvement)

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)

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