

**Cedar Hill Independent School District**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Meeting Date: November 8, 2010

Presented by: Mr. Horace Williams, Superintendent of Schools

Subject: The Big Decision Abstinence Curriculum

**Action Item**

**BOARD GOAL:**

Design and implement a rigorous instructional delivery system that is data-driven and fosters student engagement.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Currently, the approved curriculum for abstinence education is from Choosing the Best. Some student and teacher manuals were ordered by the district several years ago and the curriculum has been taught in our health classes in grades 6-12 for the last 2 years. Assistance and supplemental materials were provided by Project Turnaround. For the 2010-2011 school year, Project Turnaround will not be funding any additional student workbooks and the teacher kits that the district owns are outdated by at least two versions.

The Big Decision Abstinence Curriculum is a free curriculum for grades 7-12 that conforms to Texas Education Code 28.004. The School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) reviewed the material at the September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting and unanimously recommended the curriculum be presented to the board with the endorsement of the SHAC.

The entire 300+ pages of the curriculum can be downloaded and material reproduced for student use at <http://www.bigdecisions.org/>. The only cost to the district would be printing approximately five teacher copies and conducting a workshop to train the teachers. The material would be taught in 7<sup>th</sup> grade Health classes and high school health classes as well as other non-core elective classes as arranged with each campus administration.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The School Health Advisory Committee (SHAC) has recommended that the Big Decision Abstinence Curriculum be adopted by the board as an approved curriculum to be taught in grades 7-12 classes on the topics of human sexuality, sexually transmitted

diseases, or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). Other districts that have adopted this curriculum include: Austin ISD, Northeast ISD (San Antonio) and San Antonio ISD.

**BOARD ACTION REQUIRED:**

Board approval of the Big Decision Abstinence Curriculum is required.

**POLICY AUTHORIZATION:**

EHAA (LEGAL)

**CONTACT PERSON(S):**

Dr. Homer Carter, Chief Financial Officer

Dr. Chanda McGhee, Director of Student Support and Community Services

Sabreana Smith, Health and Physical Education Coordinator

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

N/A

**ENCLOSURES:**

See attached.