

Charles Glaes, Superintendent
Vicksburg Community Schools

August 30, 2011

Dear Parents:

The Board of Education has established a program in reproductive health and sexually transmitted diseases (including HIV/AIDS) through the Sex Education Advisory Committee. Members of this committee, representing parents, the community, educators, clergy, and health care professionals, meet periodically to review and recommend program updates and revisions. Their recommendations are then forwarded to the Board of Education for approval. This committee has been in operation since 1984, and the curriculum has been in place since 1988, with annual reviews and updates. We thank the many conscientious parents and citizens who have served our students through this important advisory panel.

Over the past five years, the State laws governing Health Education have undergone numerous changes. The most recent changes further clarified the requirements for parent notification and review of the curriculum. I have described below the means provided by the Vicksburg Schools to assist parents and/or legal guardians in exercising their parental options under the most recent legislative guidelines.

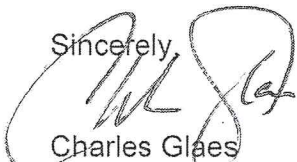
Enclosed with this letter, you will find a summary for the specific areas of instruction provided at each grade level. Instruction relating to Reproductive Health (including sexually transmitted diseases) will not begin until after October 3rd in grades 7 and 9. Elementary instruction will take place in the spring of 2012. Notification will be sent home with all 4th and 5th graders prior to instruction.

Parents and/or legal guardians who wish to review the materials and specific outcomes for each grade level or course should contact their child's building principal rather than the Superintendent's office. Parents may make arrangements to observe the instruction their children receive in reproductive health and sexually transmitted diseases. Parents may use the form on the back of this letter if they wish to have their child excused from any portion of the reproductive health curriculum. The exclusion form should be returned to your child's building principal by October 3, 2011.

It is our intent to assist parents in every way possible in understanding their child's education program. Please use this notification letter to assist you in reviewing the Vicksburg Reproductive Health Education Program and feel free to contact your child's building principal for any further information. You will find their names and phone numbers listed below:

Indian Lake Elementary	Rick Szabla	321-1400/649-2159
Sunset Lake Elementary	Pat Moreno	321-1500/649-2632
Tobey Elementary	Mike Barwegen	321-1600
Vicksburg Middle School	Greg Tibbetts	321-1300/649-0552
Vicksburg High School	Keevin O'Neill	321-1100/649-0554

Sincerely,



Charles Glaes
Superintendent

Traditions in Excellence

**Reproductive Health Curriculum
Including Sexually Transmitted Diseases (HIV/AIDS)
Parent Request to Exclude Student from Instruction**

- My child may be included in this instruction. (No need to return this form to school).
- My child will be “opted out” of the instruction only for the outlined instruction on the attachment.
- My child will be “opted out” of the instruction outlined on the attachment and all future sexuality education/HIV instruction until I further notify the principal of my child’s school.

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____ Building: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

**Vicksburg Community Schools
Sex Ed Curriculum**

Grades K - 3	
Content	Grade 5
Body Awareness	Respect/Protect Privacy of One's Own Body
Disease Prevention	Spreading and prevention of germs; universal precautions
Content	Grade 4
HIV/AIDS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Define HIV/AIDS 2) Spreading and prevention of germs; universal precautions 3) Treating others with respect
Reproductive Anatomy	Own gender reproductive anatomy instruction provided separately by gender.
Puberty/Body Changes	Own gender introductory video on basic physical and emotional changes.
Content	Grade 7
HIV/AIDS/STI's	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Recognizing Signs and Symptoms 2) Transmission and Prevention (bodily fluids) 3) Bacteria vs. Virus 4) Identify common STI's (Sexually Transmitted Infections)
Sex Education (see note at bottom of page)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Discuss the benefits of abstaining from sex until marriage and the benefits of ceasing sex if a pupil is sexually active. 2) Include a discussion of the possible emotional, economic, and legal consequences of sex. 3) Stress that unplanned pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections are serious possibilities of sex that are not fully preventable except by abstinence. 4) Teach students how to say 'no' to sexual advances and that it is wrong to take advantage of, harass, or exploit another person sexually. 5) Teach that the student has the power to control personal behavior. Students shall be taught to base their actions on reasoning, self-discipline, a sense of responsibility, self-control, and ethical considerations such as respect for self and others. 6) Teach refusal skills and encourage students to resist pressure to engage in risky behavior. 7) Provide instruction on healthy dating relationships and on how to set limits and recognize a dangerous environment.
Content	Grade 9
HIV/AIDS/STI's	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Testing and treatment 2) Community Based Resources and Services 3) Disease Prevention 4) Increase the student's awareness of risky behaviors and situations. 5) Facts and Myths
Sex Education (see note at bottom of page)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Discuss the benefits of abstaining from sex until marriage and the benefits of ceasing sex if a pupil is sexually active. 2) Include a discussion of the possible emotional, economic, and legal consequences of sex. 3) Stress that unplanned pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections are serious possibilities of sex that are not fully preventable except by abstinence. 4) Teach students how to say 'no' to sexual advances and that it is wrong to take advantage of, harass, or exploit another person sexually. 5) Teach that the student has the power to control personal behavior. Students shall be taught to base their actions on reasoning, self-discipline, a sense of responsibility, self-control, and ethical considerations such as respect for self and others. 6) Teach refusal skills and encourage students to resist pressure to engage in risky behavior. 7) Provide instruction on healthy dating relationships and on how to set limits and recognize a dangerous environment.

*Instruction in the Sex Education unit is compliant under section 380.1507 which mandates that 'the only 100% method of birth control and STD prevention is abstinence.'

Vicksburg Community Schools
Sex Ed Curriculum

Grade 7		Grade 9
<p>Content</p> <p>Reproductive Anatomy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Male and Female Anatomy 2) Structures and Functions of Male and Female Reproductive Systems 3) Body Awareness 4) Disease Prevention 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Male and Female Anatomy 2) Medical Screening and Healthcare 3) Societal Pressures 4) Human Development 5) Teen Pregnancy 6) Pre-natal Development 	
<p>Puberty/Body Changes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Endocrine System 2) Emotional, Social, and Physical Changes 3) Health Pyramid 4) Basic Hygiene and Self-care 5) Menstruation and Fertilization 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Review Body Systems and Health Pyramid 2) Discuss myths and 'norms' 	
<p>Other</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Gatekeeper Suicide Prevention Program (Gryphon Place) 2) Substance Abuse and its connection with choices and sexual behavior 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Review impact and connection of alcohol and other drugs with pregnancy and STI's 	

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Vicksburg Community Schools

Traditions In Excellence

VICKSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE FOR TITLE VI, IX AND SECTION 504

Section I

If any person believes that the Vicksburg School District or any of the District's staff has inadequately applied the principles and/or regulations of (1) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, (2) Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972, and (3) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, s/he may bring forward the complaint, which shall be referred to as a grievance, to the District's Civil Rights Coordinator:

Steve Goss, Assistant Superintendent
Vicksburg Community Schools
301 South Kalamazoo Avenue
Vicksburg, Michigan 49097

Section II

The person who believes s/he has a valid basis for grievance shall discuss the grievance informally and on a verbal basis with the local Civil Rights Coordinator, who shall in turn investigate the complaint and reply with an answer to complainant. S/He may initiate formal procedures according to the following steps:

Step 1

A written statement of the grievance signed by the complainant shall be submitted to the local Civil Rights Coordinator within five (5) business days of receipt of answers to the informal complainant. The Coordinator shall further investigate the matters of grievance and reply in writing to the complainant within five (5) business days.

Step 2

If the complainant wishes to appeal the decision of the local Civil Rights Coordinator, s/he may submit a signed statement of appeal to the Superintendent of Schools within five (5) business days after receipt of the Coordinator's response. The Superintendent shall meet with all parties involved, formulate a conclusion, and respond in writing to the complainant within ten (10) business days.

Step 3

If the complainant remains unsatisfied, s/he may appeal through a signed written statement to the Board of Education within five (5) business days of his/her receipt of the Superintendent's response in step two. In an



attempt to resolve the grievance, the Board of Education shall meet with the concerned parties and their representative within forty (40) days of the receipt of such an appeal. A copy of the Board's disposition of the appeal shall be sent to each concerned party within ten (10) business days of this meeting.

Step 4

If at this point the grievance has not been satisfactorily settled, further appeal may be made to the Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20201.

Inquiries concerning the nondiscriminatory policy may be directed to Director, Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20201.

The local Coordinator, on request, will provide a copy of the District's grievance procedure and investigate all complaints in accordance with this procedure.

A copy of each of the Acts and regulations, on which this notice is based, may be found in the Civil Rights Coordinator's office.