

Descriptor Term: ABSTINENCE EDUCATION	Descriptor: IHAMB-E	Issued: DRAFT
	Rescinds: IHAMB-E	Issued: 02/08/2000

1. The Tupelo Public School District adheres to the state standard of abstinence education as part of any course on sex education. Abstinence education **may** include instruction on:
 - A. The social, psychological and health benefits of abstaining from sexual activity and the negative **psychological and physical** effects of not abstaining;
 - B. **The** harmful consequences to the child, the child's parents and society that bearing children out of wedlock produces **including the potential health, educational, financial and other difficulties the child and his or her parents are likely to face.**
 - C. ~~Rejection of unwanted sexual advances and how alcohol and drug use increases vulnerability to sexual advances;~~ **The inappropriateness of unwanted sexual advances and how to reject unwanted sexual advances including how alcohol and drug use increases vulnerability to sexual advances.**
 - D. **Abstinence before marriage is the only way to** ~~avoidance of~~ out-of-wedlock pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases and related health problems ~~through abstinence.~~
 - E. Review of current state law related to sexual conduct; and
 - F. Mutually faithful, monogamous relationship in the context of marriage as being the only appropriate setting for sexual relationships.
2. Each school providing instruction or any other presentation on human sexuality shall be required to provide at least one week's written notice to the parents of children in such programs. The notice must inform the parents of their right to request the ~~exclusion~~ **inclusion** of their child ~~from~~ **in** such instruction or program and to review the curriculum and all materials to be used in the presentation. Upon the request of any parent, the school shall excuse the parent's child from such instruction or presentation, without detriment to the student.
3. ~~In order to maximize educational benefits, it is the intent of the district that such instruction is not provided to female students and to male students simultaneously in the same school setting~~ **At all times when sex-related education is discussed or taught, boys and girls shall be separated according to gender into different classrooms. Sex-related education instruction may not be conducted when boys and girls are in the company of any students of the opposite gender.**
4. This policy does not apply to any biological science course or curriculum.
5. **The Board authorizes the superintendent to establish administrative procedures consistent with this policy.**

REFERENCES

MCA §§ 37-13-171, 37-13-173, 37-13-175