



SECOND READING OF SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

POLICY ISSUE/SITUATION:

Attached is the second reading of School Board policies:

- **IGAI** – Human Sexuality Education
- **JHFE** – Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In January, 2004 the Oregon School Board Association performed an audit of the Beaverton School District Board policies. As a result of this audit, departments continue to work to reach compliance of the policies pertinent to their areas. Throughout the school year new policies and/or policy changes will be presented for your review.

RECOMMENDATION:

(14-402) It is recommended that the School Board adopt these policy changes.

District Goal: All students will show continuous progress toward their personal learning goals, developed in collaboration with teachers and parents, and will be prepared for post-secondary education and career success.

The Beaverton School District recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups. It is the policy of the Beaverton School District that there will be no discrimination or harassment of individuals or groups based on race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, marital status, age, veterans' status, genetic information or disability in any educational programs, activities or employment.

Human Sexuality, AIDS/HIV, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Health Education**

The District shall ~~teach~~ provide an age-appropriate, comprehensive plan of instruction focusing on human sexuality, HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections and disease prevention in elementary and secondary schools as an integral part of health education and other subjects.

Course material and instruction for all human sexuality education courses that discuss human sexuality shall enhance students' understanding of sexuality as a normal and healthy aspect of human development. In addition, the HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections and disease prevention education and the human sexuality education comprehensive plan shall provide adequate instruction at least annually, for all students in grade 6-8 and at least twice during grades 9-12.

Parents, teachers, school administrators, local health department staff, other community representatives and persons from the medical community who are knowledgeable of the latest scientific information and effective education strategies shall develop the plan of instruction and align it with the Oregon Health Education Standards and Benchmarks.

The Board shall approve the plan of instruction and require that it be reviewed and updated biennially in accordance with new scientific information and effective educational strategies.

The comprehensive plan of instruction shall include the following information that:

1. Promotes abstinence for school age youth and mutually monogamous relationships with an uninfected partner for adults;
2. Allays those fears concerning HIV that are scientifically groundless;
3. Is balanced and medically accurate;
4. Provides balanced, ~~and~~ accurate information and skills-based instruction on risks and benefits of contraceptives, condoms ~~contraception~~ and other disease reduction measures;
5. Stresses avoidance of high risk behaviors such as the sharing of needles and syringes for injecting illegal drugs, and controlled substances ~~steroids, for tattooing and body piercings~~;
6. Discusses the characteristics of the emotional, physical, and psychological aspects of a healthy relationship and a discussion about the benefits of delaying pregnancy beyond the adolescent years as a means to better ensure a healthy future for parents and their children. Students shall be provided with statistics based on the latest medical information regarding both the health benefits and the possible side effects of all forms of contraceptives, including the success and failure rates for prevention of pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections and diseases;
7. Stresses that HIV/STD's and Hepatitis B/C can be ~~serious~~ hazards of sexual contact;
8. Provides students with information about Oregon laws that address young people's rights and responsibilities relating to childbearing and parenting;
9. Advises students of consequences of having sexual relations with persons younger than 18 years of age to whom they are not married;
10. Encourages family communication and involvement and helps students learn to make responsible, respectful and healthy decisions;

11. Teaches that no form of sexual expression or behavior is acceptable when it physically or emotionally harms oneself or others and that it is wrong to take advantage of or exploit another person not to make unwanted physical and verbal sexual advances;
12. Teaches that consent is an essential component of healthy sexual behavior. Course material shall promote positive attitudes and behaviors related to healthy relationships and sexuality, and encourage active student bystander behavior;
13. ~~Teaches it is wrong to take advantage of or exploit another person~~ Teachers students how to identify and respond to attitudes and behaviors which contribute to sexual violence;
14. Validates the importance of one's honesty, respect for each person's dignity and well-being, and responsibility for one's actions;
15. Uses ~~culturally and gender sensitive~~ inclusive materials, language, and strategies that recognizes different sexual orientations, and gender identities and gender expression roles.
16. Includes information about relevant community resources, how to access these resources, and the laws that protect the rights of minors to anonymously access the resources.

The comprehensive plan of instruction shall emphasize ~~include~~ skill-based instruction that:

1. Assists students to develop and practice effective communication skills, development of self-esteem and ability to resist peer pressure;
2. Provides students with the opportunity to learn about and personalize peer, media, technology and community influences that both positively and negatively impact their attitudes and decisions related to healthy sexuality, relationships and sexual behaviors, including decisions to abstain from sexual intercourse;
3. Enhances students' ability to access valid health information and resources related to their sexual health;
4. Teaches how to develop and communicate sexual and reproductive boundaries decline unwanted sexual advances, or accept the refusal of unwanted sexual advances, through the use of refusal and negotiation skills;
5. Is research based, evidence based or best practices; and
6. Aligns with the Oregon Health Education Content Standards and Benchmarks.

All sexuality education programs emphasize that abstinence from sexual intercourse, when practiced consistently and correctly, is the only 100 percent effective method against unintended pregnancy, HIV infection (when transmitted sexually), hepatitis B/C infection and other sexually transmitted infections and diseases.

Abstinence is to be stressed, but not to the exclusion of contraceptives and condoms ~~other methods~~ for preventing unintended pregnancy, HIV infection, hepatitis B/C infection and other sexually transmitted infections and diseases and hepatitis B/C. Such courses are to acknowledge the value of abstinence while not devaluing or ignoring those students who have had or are having sexual relationships. Further, sexuality education materials, including instructional strategies, and activities must not, in any way use shame or fear based tactics.

Materials and information shall be presented in a manner sensitive to the fact that there are students who have experienced perpetrated or witnessed sexual abuse and relationship violence ~~sexual abuse.~~

The District shall make known to the parent and District residents that the human sexuality and AIDS/HIV instructional materials used in class, in a course, assembly or school-sponsored activity are available for review. The District shall also encourage family communication and involvement.

The parent of minor students shall be notified in advance of any human sexuality, ~~or~~ and AIDS/HIV instruction. The notice shall state an opportunity to review materials, no student shall be required to take or participate in the instruction and a written objection submitted to the district will excuse a student with no disciplinary or academic consequence.

END OF POLICY

Legal References:

ORS 336.035

ORS 336.107

ORS 336.455 – 366.475

ORS 339.370

~~OAR 581-022-070~~

OAR 581-022-0705

OAR 581-022-1440

OAR 581-022-1910

Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse

Any District employee who has reasonable cause or reasonable suspicion to believe that any child with whom he/she has come in contact has suffered abuse or neglect, as defined in state law, or that any adult with whom he/she is in contact has abused a child, will immediately notify the Washington County Department of Human Services, or the local law enforcement agency. The District employee shall also immediately inform his/her supervisor, building principal or superintendent or designee.

Child abuse will not be tolerated. The District will designate the Superintendent or designee to receive reports of child abuse by District employees and specify the procedures to be followed upon receipt of a child abuse report. The District will post in each school building the name and contact information of the person designated to receive child abuse reports, as well as the procedures the Superintendent or designee will follow upon receipt of a report. In the event that the designated person is the suspected abuser, the Chief Human Resource Officer shall receive the report. When the Superintendent or designee takes action on the report, the person who initiated the report must be notified.

Upon request, the District shall provide records of investigations of suspected child abuse by a District employee or former District employee to law enforcement, Department of Human Services or Teachers Standards and Practices Commission.

Any District employee participating in good faith in the making of a report, pursuant to this policy and Oregon law and who has reasonable grounds for the making thereof, shall have immunity from any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed with respect to the making or content of any such report. Further, the initiation of a report in good faith about suspected child abuse may not adversely affect any terms or conditions of employment or the work environment of the complainant. The Superintendent or designee shall notify the person initiating the report about actions taken by the District based on the report.

If a student initiates a report of suspected child abuse by a District employee in good faith, the student will not be disciplined by any District employee. Intentionally making a false report of child abuse is a Class A violation.

The Superintendent or designee will establish rules, procedures, work instructions and/or forms to be used in the child abuse and sexual conduct reporting process, and implement such regulations as are necessary to accomplish the intent of this policy and to comply with state law. Copies of this policy and applicable state laws will be given to all school employees.

District staff shall receive training each school year in the prevention and identification of child abuse and on the obligations of school employees under ORS 419B.005 to 419B.050 and as directed by Board policy to report suspected child abuse. In addition, an annual training for parents and legal guardians of students attending district schools shall be provided on the prevention, identification of child abuse and the obligation of school employees to report suspected child abuse. Annual training

designed to help prevent child abuse will be made available to students attending district-operated schools.

END OF POLICY

Legal References(s) and District Administrative Regulations:

ORS 418.746 – 418.751 ORS 339.370 to 339.400
ORS 419B.005 – 419B.050 OAR 581-022-0711
HB 4016 (2012)

JHFE-AR (Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse)