

Document Status: Draft Update

6:60 Curriculum Content

The curriculum shall contain instruction on subjects required by State statute or regulation as follows:

- In kindergarten through grade 8, subjects include: (a) language arts, (b) reading, (c) other communication skills, (d) science, (e) mathematics, (f) social studies, (g) art, (h) music, and (i) drug and substance abuse prevention including the dangers of opioid abuse [PRESSPlus1](#) A reading opportunity of 60 minutes per day will be promoted for all students in kindergarten through grade 3 whose reading levels are one grade level or more lower than their current grade level. Daily time of at least 30 minutes (with a minimum of at least 15 consecutive minutes if divided) will be provided for supervised, unstructured, child-directed play for all students in kindergarten through grade 5. [PRESSPlus2](#) A unit of cursive instruction will be offered in grade 3. Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, in grades 6, 7, or 8, students must receive at least one semester of civics education in accordance with Illinois Learning Standards for social science.
 - In grades 7 and 8, as well as in interscholastic athletic programs, steroid abuse prevention must be taught.
 - In kindergarten through grade 8, provided it can be funded by private grants or the federal government, violence prevention and conflict resolution must be stressed, including: (a) causes of conflict, (b) consequences of violent behavior, (c) non-violent resolution, and (d) relationships between drugs, alcohol, and violence. In addition, anti-bias education and intergroup conflict resolution may be taught as an effective method for preventing violence and lessening tensions in schools; these prevention methods are most effective when they are respectful of individuals and their divergent viewpoints and religious beliefs, which are protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. [Q1](#)
 - In grades kindergarten through 8, age-appropriate Internet safety must be taught, the scope of which shall be determined by the Superintendent or designee. The curriculum must incorporate policy 6:235, Access to Electronic Networks and, at a minimum, include: (a) education about appropriate online behavior, (b) interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and (c) cyberbullying awareness and response.
 - In all grades, students must receive developmentally appropriate opportunities to gain computer literacy skills that are embedded in the curriculum. [PRESSPlus3](#)
 - In all grades, character education must be taught including respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, trustworthiness, and citizenship in order to raise students' honesty, kindness, justice, discipline, respect for others, and moral courage. Instruction in all grades will include educating students about behaviors that violate policy 7:180, Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment.
 - In all schools, citizenship values must be taught, including: (a) American patriotism, (b) democratic principles of representative government (the American Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the State of Illinois) freedom, justice, and equality, [PRESSPlus4](#) (c) proper use and display of the American flag, (d) the Pledge of Allegiance, and (e) the voting process.
 - In all grades, physical education must be taught including a developmentally planned and sequential curriculum that fosters the development of movement skills, enhances health-related fitness, increases students' knowledge, offers direct opportunities to learn how to work cooperatively in a group setting, and encourages healthy habits and attitudes for a healthy lifestyle. Unless otherwise exempted, all students are required to engage in a physical education course with such frequency as determined by the Board after recommendation from the Superintendent, but at a minimum of three days per five-day week. [PRESSPlus5](#) For exemptions and substitutions, see policy 7:260, Exemption from Physical Education.
 - In all schools, health education must be stressed, including: [PRESSPlus6](#) (a) proper nutrition, (b) physical fitness, (c) components necessary to develop a sound mind in a healthy body, (d) dangers and avoidance of abduction, and (e) age-appropriate and evidence-informed [PRESSPlus7](#) sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in all grades. [PRESSPlus8](#) The Superintendent shall implement a comprehensive health education program in accordance with State law. [Q2](#)
 - In all schools, career/vocational education must be taught, including: (a) the importance of work, (b) the development of basic skills to enter the world of work and/or continue formal education, (c) good work habits and values, (d) the relationship between learning and work, and (e) if possible, a student work program that provides the student with work experience as an extension of the regular classroom. A career awareness and exploration program must be available at all grade levels.
 - In all schools, conservation of natural resources must be taught, including: (a) home ecology, (b) endangered species, (c) threats to the environment, and (d) the importance of the environment to life as we know it.
 - In all schools, United States (U.S.) history must be taught, including: (a) the principles of representative government, (b) the Constitutions of the U.S. and Illinois, (c) the role of the U.S. in world affairs, (d) the role of labor unions, (e) the role and contributions of ethnic groups, including but not limited to, the African Americans, Albanians, Asian Americans, Bohemians, Czechs, French, Germans, Hispanics (including the events related to the forcible removal and illegal deportation of Mexican-American U.S. citizens during the Great Depression), Hungarians, Irish, Italians, Lithuanians, Polish, Russians, Scots, and Slovaks in the history of this country and State, (f) a study of the roles and contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people in the history of the U.S. and Illinois, and (g) Illinois history, and (h) the contributions made to society by Americans of different faith practices, including, but not limited to, Muslim Americans, Jewish Americans, Christian Americans, Hindu Americans, Sikh Americans, Buddhist Americans, and any other collective community of faith that has shaped America. [PRESSPlus9](#)
- In addition, all schools shall hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on Constitution Day, each September 17, commemorating the September 17, 1787 signing of the Constitution. However, when September 17 falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, Constitution Day shall be held during the preceding or following week.
- In grade 7, students must view a Congressional Medal of Honor film made by the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, provided there is no cost for the film.
 - In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on the Holocaust and crimes of genocide, including Nazi atrocities of 1933-1945, Armenian Genocide, the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine, and more recent atrocities in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, and Sudan.
 - In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on the history, struggles, and contributions of women.
 - In all schools, the curriculum includes instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on Black History, including the history of the pre-enslavement of Black people from 3,000 BCE to AD 1619, the African slave trade, slavery in America, the study of the reasons why Black people came to be enslaved, and the vestiges of slavery in this country, the study of the American civil rights renaissance, as well as the struggles and contributions of African-Americans. [PRESSPlus10](#)
 - In all schools, instruction during courses as determined by the Superintendent or designee on disability history, awareness, and the disability rights movement.
 - Beginning in the fall of 2022, in all schools, instruction as determined by the Superintendent or designee on the events of Asian American history, including the history of Asian Americans in Illinois and the Midwest, as well as the contributions of Asian Americans toward advancing civil rights from the 19th century onward, which must include the contributions made by individual Asian Americans in government and the arts, humanities, and sciences, as well as the contributions of Asian American communities to the economic, cultural, social, and political development of the United States. [PRESSPlus11](#)
 - In kindergarten through grade 8, education must be available to students concerning effective methods of preventing and avoiding traffic injuries related to walking and bicycling.

LEGAL REF.:

[Pub. L. No. 108-447](#), Section 111 of Division J, Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005.

[Pub. L. No. 110-385](#), Title II, 122 stat. 4096 (2008), Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

47 C.F.R. §54.520₁

5 ILCS 465/3 and 465/3a.

20 ILCS 2605/2605-480.

105 ILCS 5/2-3.80(e) and (f), [5/10-20.73 \(final citation pending\)](#), [5/10-23.13](#), [5/27-3](#), [5/27-3.5](#), [5/27-5](#), [5/27-6](#), [5/27-6.5](#), [5/27-7](#), [5/27-12](#), [5/27-12.1](#), [5/27-13.1](#), [5/27-13.2](#), [5/27-13.2](#), [5/27-20.3](#), [5/27-20.4](#), [5/27-20.5](#), [5/27-20.7](#), [5/27-20.8](#), [5/27-21](#), [5/27-22](#), [5/27-23.3](#), [5/27-23.4](#), [5/27-23.7](#), [5/27-23.8](#), [5/27-23.10](#), [5/27-23.11](#), [5/27-23.15](#), [5/27-24.1](#), and [5/27-24.2](#).

[105 ILCS 435/](#) and [110/3, Comprehensive Health Education Program.](#)

[105 ILCS 435/ Vocational Education Act.](#)

625 ILCS 5/6-408.5, [Ill. Vehicle Code.](#)

[23 Ill.Admin.Code §§1.420, 1.425, 1.430, and 1.440.](#)

CROSS REF.: [4:165 \(Awareness and Prevention of Child Sex Abuse and Grooming Behaviors\)](#); 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 6:40 (Curriculum Development), 6:70 (Teaching About Religions), 7:190 (Student Discipline); 6:235 (Access to Electronic Networks), 7:180 (Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 7:260 (Exemption from Physical Education)

Questions and Answers:

***Required Question 1. 105 ILCS 5/27-23.6 entitled *Anti-bias education* allows districts to incorporate activities to address intergroup conflict, with the objectives of improving intergroup relations on and beyond the school campus, defusing intergroup tensions, and promoting peaceful resolution of conflict.

Boards that adopt a policy to incorporate activities to address anti-bias education and intergroup conflict pursuant to this law must make information available to the public that describes the manner in which the district has implemented the activities. Methods for making this information available include: the district's website, if any, and in the district's offices upon request. See 2:250-E2, *Immediately Available District Public Records and Web-Posted Reports and Records*, available at [PRESS Online](http://www.iasb.com) by logging in at www.iasb.com. Districts may also include the information in a student handbook and in district newsletters. The Ill. Principals Association (IPA) maintains a handbook service that coordinates with **PRESS** material, Online Model Student Handbook (MSH), at: www.ilprincipals.org/resources/model-student-handbook.

Does the District provide anti-bias education and intergroup conflict resolution?

- Yes (default)
- No (IASB will remove the sentence regarding anti-bias education and intergroup conflict resolution from policy 6:60. If the Board has adopted policy 6:180, IASB will also remove Anti-bias education and intergroup conflict resolution from its list of extended instructional programs.)

***Required Question 2. The repealed family life and sex education programs (105 ILCS 5/27-9.1 and 5/27-9.2, amended by P.A. 102-522) were replaced with the National Sex Education Standards (NSES) (105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a, added by P.A. 102-522) and a developmentally appropriate consent education curriculum (105 ILCS 5/27-9.1b, added by P.A. 102-522). But at the time of **PRESS** Issue 108's publication, the term *family life*, "including evidence-based and medically accurate information regarding sexual abstinence," remained in the Comprehensive Health Education Program (CHEP) (105 ILCS 110/3, amended by P.A. 102-464). The CHEP also includes many other health education topics that all elementary and secondary schools in Illinois must provide, including *teen dating violence* (105 ILCS 110/3.10, see 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*, for the required "teen dating violence policy") and cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated external defibrillator use. For ease of administration, 6:60-AP1, *Comprehensive Health Education Program*, content includes reference to the new NSES curriculum that is outlined in more detail at 6:60-AP2, *Comprehensive Personal Health and Safety and Sexual Health Education Program (National Sex Education Standards (NSES))*. 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a, added by P.A. 102-522. While the NSES law is effective immediately, ISBE has until 8-1-22 to develop its learning standards and resources, and at the time of **PRESS** Issue 108's publication, no guidance existed about whether districts that provide the now-repealed family life and sex education programs formerly in 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1 and 9.2, repealed by P.A. 102-522, may continue to do so for: (a) their 21-22 school years, and/or (b) continuing into the 22-23 school year and subsequent school years. Consult the board attorney if the district offered the now-repealed family life and sex education program to assess whether that program may continue during the 21-22 school year and/or school years beyond.

Two choices exist for school boards related to providing students with a sex education curriculum:

1. No sex education; or
2. NSES a/k/a Comprehensive Personal Health and Safety and Sexual Health Education Program (105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a, added by P.A. 102-522, and see 6:60-AP2, *Comprehensive Personal Health and Safety and Sexual Health Education Program (National Sex Education Standards (NSES))*).

While boards are not required to include sex education curriculum information in their policies, if they offer it, the new law requires them to identify the curriculum their district uses along with the name and contact information, including an email address, of a school staff member who can respond to inquiries about instruction and materials. 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a(e), added by P.A. 102-522. Methods for making this information available include: the district's website, if any, and in the district's offices upon request. See 2:250-E2, *Immediately Available District Public Records and Web-Posted Reports and Records*, available at **PRESS Online** by logging in at www.iasb.com.

If NSES is offered, ensure that the superintendent implements both 6:60-AP1, *Comprehensive Health Education Program*, and 6:60-AP2, *Comprehensive Personal Health and Safety and Sexual Health Education Program (National Sex Education Standards (NSES))*.

If developmentally appropriate consent education curriculum pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1b is offered, ensure that implementation of 6:60-AP3, *Developmentally Appropriate Consent Education*, aligns with this policy.

Enter the board's choice below regarding communication to their communities in this policy about the sex education curriculum offered by the district:

- The Board does not offer NSES or developmentally appropriate consent education. (No change to the policy.)
- The Board offers NSES and/or developmentally appropriate consent education, but the Board will not communicate the curriculum chosen in this policy. (No change to the policy.)
- The Board offers National Sex Education Standards (NSES) curriculum, and the Board would like to communicate that in this policy. (IASB will add the following sentence: The Superintendent shall implement a comprehensive health education program in accordance with State law, including a personal health and safety and sexual health education program (National Sex Education Standards) pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a.)
- The Board offers National Sex Education Standards (NSES) curriculum and developmentally appropriate consent education curriculum, and the Board would like to communicate both in this policy. (IASB will add the following sentences: The Superintendent shall implement a comprehensive health education program in accordance with State law, including a personal health and safety and sexual health education program (National Sex Education Standards) pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a. The Superintendent shall also implement a developmentally appropriate consent education curriculum pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1b.)
- The Board either does not offer NSES, or offers NSES but does not want to communicate that in this policy, but the Board does offer developmentally appropriate consent education curriculum and wants to communicate it in this policy. (IASB will add the following sentence: The Superintendent shall implement a comprehensive health education program in accordance with State law, including a developmentally appropriate consent education curriculum pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1b.)

PRESSPlus Comments

PRESSPlus 1. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-13.2, amended by P.A. 102-195, which requires that in addition to instruction, study, and discussion of effective methods for the prevention and avoidance of drugs and substance abuse, the subject must also cover the dangers of opioid abuse. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 2. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-6.3, added by P.A. 102-357. Schools must provide at least 30 minutes of play time for any school day five clock hours or longer in length. For any school days less than that, the total time allotted during the school day must be at least one-tenth of a day of attendance for the student. Time spent dressing or undressing for outdoor play may not count towards the daily time allotment. Play time must be computer-, tablet-, phone-, and video-free. Play time may be withheld as a disciplinary or punitive action only if a student's participation poses an immediate threat to the safety of the student or others. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 3. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-20.73 (final citation pending), 5/10-20.74, and 5/27-22(e)(3.5), added by P.A. 101-654. 105 ILCS 5/10-20.74, added by P.A. 101-654, requires that districts submit an annual report to ISBE regarding educational technology capacities and policies. See the subhead **Educational Technology Committee** and footnote 20 in 2:150-AP, *Superintendent Committees*, available at **PRESS Online** by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 4. Updated to align with Illinois statute. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 5. Boards that want their daily physical education requirement to align with their goal in policy 6:50, *School Wellness*, may replace "minimum of three days per five-day week" with their local daily requirements. If the board adopts changes to this policy's physical education requirement, enter the change, and use the save status "Adopted with Additional District Edits." **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 6. Required by the Comprehensive Health Education Program law (105 ILCS 110/3). More detailed critical health problems and comprehensive health education program content is described in administrative procedure 6:60-AP1, *Comprehensive Health Education Program*, available at **PRESS Online** by logging in at www.iasb.com. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 7. *Evidence-informed per Erin's Law* means modalities that were created utilizing components of evidence-based treatments or curriculums. 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13(a), added by P.A. 102-610. Contrast with National Sex Education Standards (NSES) at 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1a(a), added by P.A. 102-552, which defines an *evidence-informed program* as "a program that uses the best available research and practice knowledge to guide program design and implementation." **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 8. 105 ILCS 110/3 and 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13, amended by P.A. 102-610 a/k/a *Erin's Law* (child sexual abuse prevention). While 105 ILCS 5/10-23.13(b) states pre-K through 12th, this policy uses *all grades* for brevity and ease of administration. *Erin's Law* requires a policy addressing child sexual abuse prevention and curriculum content on that subject (see policy 4:165, *Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors*). A sentence in 6:60-AP1, *Comprehensive Health Education Program*, restates the basic recommendations from page 16 of the *Erin's Law* Taskforce Final Report (Report) to Governor Quinn at: www.isbe.net/Documents/enrs-law-final0512.pdf, which was the basis for HB 1975 text, which did not pass in the first half of the 102nd Ill. General Assembly but is used as the basis for sample content to implement P.A. 102-610 due to that Public Act's vagueness. The professional educator training component of *Erin's Law* is addressed in policies 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting* and 5:100, *Staff Development Program*. The Report also encouraged parental involvement because parents play a key role in protecting children from child sexual abuse. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 9. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-21, amended by P.A. 102-411. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 10. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-20.4, amended by P.A. 101-654. **Issue 108, November 2021**

PRESSPlus 11. Updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/27-20.8, added by P.A. 102-44. The regional superintendent of schools [or Intermediate Service Center Executive Director, whichever is appropriate] will monitor districts' compliance with this law during the annual compliance review visits. Districts may meet this law's requirements through online programs or courses. **Issue 108, November 2021**