

## **Browning Public Schools**

### **Policy #4425**

Policy Name: *Health Enhancement/Human Reproductive Health*

Regulation: -----

### **Family Health**

In recognition of the fact that sexuality is fundamental to all life, and is of primary importance in nature, in society, and in the life of every individual; and in recognition of the fact that the essence of education is the acquisition of knowledge related to those areas that are important in society and in the lives of individuals, the Board accepts the responsibility to provide information concerning sexuality as a part of the educational opportunities available to students.

The Board further recognizes that the family and the church have the primary responsibility for the education of children in the area of human sexuality. *Although the public schools have a responsibility to provide information concerning sexuality, it is the family and the church that provide the specific value system through which students translate knowledge into decisions and actions.* Browning Public Schools has instructed its school nurses to make condoms available to students in order to prevent complications of sexually transmitted diseases. Condoms availability is subject to private consultation with the school nurse.

In the Browning Public Schools, the goals of instruction related to sexuality will be to:

- insure accurate knowledge about human reproduction, including conception, birth, and prenatal care, with specific emphasis on the family unit and the responsibilities and consequences relating to sexual activity;
- adapt this information to the age and grade level of students;
- promote, encourage, and increase communication between parents and children;
- increase decision-making skills;
- offer information that will assist students to act responsibly;
- discourage promiscuity; and
- enhance and develop the students' self-esteem.

Within the focus of these goals, and at appropriate age and grade levels, the information presented regarding human sexuality will include:

- anatomy, physiology, and psychology of adolescence and sexual growth;
- dating and dating situations;
- legal aspects of sexual conduct;

- homosexuality, masturbation, abortion, rape, sexual abuse, incest, prostitution, contraception, promiscuity and sexually transmitted diseases;
- self-respect, self-control, and individual differences among people;
- community resources;
- pregnancy and childbirth; and
- responsibility of parents and child care.

The treatment of each of these topics will center on the influence of physical and mental health and well-being and the social, ethical and legal consequences relating to these subjects.

Alternative instructional activities on a different health topic will be provided for any student whose parents choose not to have their child participate in instruction dealing with human sexuality.

Personnel involved in instruction regarding human sexuality will conduct such instruction with maturity and discretion and in compliance with the spirit and intent of this policy. Personnel providing instruction in human sexuality will receive in-service training based on district approved standards before presenting such instruction.

The Board will review and adopt the program developed in response to this policy. The implementation of this policy will be monitored through the standard administrative processes of the school system.

#### **Annual Parent Information Meeting about the Health/Human Reproductive Education Program**

The school district will schedule a “parent information meeting,” **provide parent/s with annual written notification of a meeting** to take place on or before October 31 in each school year, about the Health/Human Reproductive Education Program.

#### **Content for Courses That Discuss Sensitive Issues**

Instruction will be provided on some issues, which some persons may consider to be sensitive or controversial. The degree of sensitivity will vary from individual to individual depending upon personal, religious or ethnic beliefs and values. Foremost among these potentially charged issues are the topics of abortion, rape, incest, prostitution, contraception, homosexuality, masturbation, sexual abuse, promiscuity and sexually transmitted diseases.

All classes that discuss “sexual intercourse will emphasize that abstinence from sexual intercourse is the only protection that is 100% effective against unwanted teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) when transmitted sexually.”

In addition, the course material and instruction must:

- be developmentally appropriate;
- be presented in an objective, factual, and non-judgmental manner;

- be in a controlled fashion wherein professionally – trained teachers handle all discussions with the utmost of discretion and respect for the dignity of each student; and
- be by teachers who maintain an unbiased position when addressing issues of a controversial nature.
- stress that abstinence is the only contraceptive method, which is 100% effective and that all other methods of contraception carry a risk of failure in preventing, unwanted teenage pregnancy. Statistics based on the latest medical information will be provided to students citing the failure and success rate of condoms and other contraceptives in preventing pregnancy;
- stress that sexually transmitted diseases are serious possible hazards of sexual intercourse. Students will be provided with statistics based on the latest medical information citing the failure and success rate of condoms in preventing
- discuss AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases;
- include a discussion of the possible emotional and psychological consequences of preadolescent and adolescent sexual intercourse outside of marriage and the consequences of unwanted adolescent pregnancy;
- stress that students should abstain from sexual intercourse until they are ready for marriage;
- teach honor and respect for monogamous heterosexual marriage;
- advise students of the laws pertaining to their financial responsibility to children born in and out of wedlock;
- advise students that it is unlawful for females/males of age to have sexual relations with females/males under the age of 18 to whom they are not married.
- emphasize that the student has the power to control personal behavior. Students will be encouraged to base their actions on reasoning, self-discipline, sense of responsibility, self-control, and ethical considerations such as respect for one's self and others; and
- teach students to make unwanted physical and verbal sexual advances and how to say no to unwanted sexual advances. Students will be taught that it is wrong to take advantage of, or to exploit another person. The material and instruction will also encourage youth to resist negative peer pressure.

#### **Guiding Principals for Human Reproductive Health**

1. Operates under constraints of Board Policy.
2. Abstinence is the primary message.
3. Intervene with education before the child's first sexual experience.

- 1 4. Developmentally appropriate instruction (the depth and extent of coverage is dependent on  
2 the developmental level of the student).
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- 4 5. "OPT OUT" Policy available to all parents.
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- 6 6. Physical Education/Health Department will provide instruction of all reproductive health  
7 units at each grade level. Unit lesson plans must be submitted to the building principal in  
8 their entirety prior to instruction.
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- 10 7. Grades K-3 is heterogeneous instruction integrated throughout the school year.
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- 12 Grade 4 is segregated instruction with a minimum of five days each for male/females.
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- 14 Grade 5 depending on topic can be segregated or mixed with a minimum of five days.
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- 16 Grade 6-8 is heterogeneous grouping with thirty days of instruction over the course of three  
17 years.
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- 19 Grade 9-10 is heterogeneous grouping with instructional time as a partial semester.
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- 21 8. Review of previous years' curriculum is mandatory prior to introducing new materials.
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- 23 9. All PE/Health staff are required to participate in formal training provided by the school  
24 district regarding Human Reproduction.
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- 26 10. All appropriate staff will be in-serviced annually regarding the curriculum.
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- 28 11. Material selection will be consensus of all instructors and must include the school nurses  
29 (parents input will always be considered).
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- 31 12. Abstinence.
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33 **Note:** Research is unequivocal in its findings regarding Human Reproductive Health Education.  
34 There is no increase in adolescent sexual activity as a result of increased information.

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39 **Cross Reference:**

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41 **Legal Reference:** 50-16-1001, et seq., MCA  
42 AIDS Education and Prevention (AIDS Prevention Act)

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44 **Policy History:**

45 Adopted on: 5/13/00

46 Amended on: 2/13/01, **11/9/21**