

August 2025 Board Update

SEAB Special Meeting – July 29, 2025

Topic: 7th Grade Unit 3 – *Building Respectful Future Dating Relationships*

The Sex Education Advisory Board (SEAB) met in a special session on July 29, 2025, in response to School Board questions about updates to 7th Grade Unit 3. The committee reviewed two specific slides—Slide 2 and Slide 56—using a structured protocol to ensure all members could share input on language and content.

Slide 2

Discussion Focus:

- Alignment with the broader reproductive health scope and sequence
- Appropriate language for 7th graders
- Review of instructional materials used in other Michigan schools, including:
 - *Michigan Model for Health* curriculum
- Review of state laws regarding reproductive health

Clarification: In our health curriculum, the term *sexuality* does not refer to promoting values or lifestyles. In this context, it means providing students with a clear, factual framework to understand how their bodies work, how reproduction happens, and how the components of the reproductive health curriculum fit together.

Following the discussion, four wording options were proposed. The committee voted to recommend the following language for School Board consideration:

Our Sexuality in More Detail

Sexuality is about our male or female bodies, sexual feelings, thoughts, attractions, and behaviors toward other people. It's a natural part of who we are that develops as we grow up.

But sexuality is also bigger than just feelings of attraction. It touches nearly every aspect of who we are—from our attitudes and values to our experiences and how we see ourselves. It's like a puzzle with many pieces that make up the whole picture of you.

Slide 56

Discussion Focus:

- Age-appropriate language for 7th graders
- Common student questions during this unit

The committee voted to recommend the following language for School Board consideration:

STI vs. STD

"A sexually transmitted infection (STI) is a virus, bacteria, fungus, or parasite people can get through sexual contact. A sexually transmitted disease (STD) develops because of an STI and the term implies that the infection has led to some symptom of disease."

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2024, March 25). *About Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/sti/about/index.html>
