

Instruction

Administrative Procedure - Comprehensive Health Education Program

The major educational areas of the District's comprehensive health education program are described below:

1. In all elementary and secondary schools the health program shall include human ecology and health; human growth and development; the emotional, psychological, physiological, hygienic, and social responsibilities of family life (including, in grades 6 through 12, instruction about both abstinence and contraception for the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS); prevention and control of disease, and course material and instruction to advise students of the Abandoned Newborn Infant Protection Act. The program shall include information about cancer, including without limitation, types of cancer, signs and symptoms, risk factors, the importance of early prevention and detection, and information on where to go for help.
2. In grades pre-K through 12, age appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education shall be included in a child sexual abuse prevention program. Through grade 5, the comprehensive health education program will provide one to four age-appropriate instructional sessions per school year to instruct students to (a) recognize and report sexual abuse, and (b) focus on methods to reduce students' vulnerability to sexual abuse.
3. The grades 6-12 health program shall include the prevention, transmission and spread of AIDS; public and environmental health; consumer health; safety education and disaster survival; mental health and illness; personal health habits; alcohol and drug use and abuse (including the medical and legal ramifications of alcohol, drug, and tobacco use and abuse during pregnancy); emphasis that sexual abstinence is a responsible and positive decision; tobacco; nutrition; and dental health.
4. The following areas may also be included in the curricula: basic first aid (including cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the Heimlich maneuver); in grades 6-8, video training on cardiopulmonary resuscitation and how to use an automated external defibrillator; heart disease; diabetes; stroke; the prevention of child abuse, neglect, and suicide; and age appropriate education about the warning signs, recognition, dangers, and prevention of teen dating violence in grades 7 through 12.
5. In grades 5-12, the health program shall include instruction on alcohol and drug use and abuse, including the consequences of drug and substance abuse.
6. In grades K-8, students should be provided with age-appropriate information about the dangers of drug abuse. The District's educational program shall offer drug education units that are integrated into the curricula and are designed to promote effective methods for the prevention and avoidance of drug and substance abuse.
7. In grades 7-12, the program shall include the prevention of abuse of anabolic steroids. In addition, coaches and sponsors of interscholastic athletic programs shall provide instruction on steroid abuse prevention to students participating in these programs.
8. The family life and sex education program shall be developed in a sequential pattern and related in depth and scope to the students' physical, emotional, and intellectual maturity level. Family life courses offered in grades 6-12, shall include information regarding the alternatives to abortion and information regarding the prevention, transmission, and spread of AIDS. Course content shall be age-appropriate.

Class sessions which deal exclusively with human sexuality may be conducted separately for males and females.

8. The health program in grades K-8 shall include annual instruction on the danger of and how to avoid abduction as part of the District's regular curriculum. Students shall be given, as appropriate, information on child sexual abuse.
9. Students shall be provided parenting education in grades 6-12.
10. Students shall be provided safety education in all grades.
11. All students shall receive age-appropriate instruction on motor vehicle safety and litter control.
12. Students in grades 9 or 10 shall receive instruction on donations and transplants of organs/tissue and blood.

No student shall be required to take or participate in any class or course on AIDS, family life instruction, sex abuse, or organ/tissue transplantation, if his or her parent/guardian submits a written objection to the Building Principal. Parents/guardians of students in grades kindergarten through 8 shall be given at least 5 days written notice before instruction on avoiding sex abuse begins. Refusal to take or participate in any such course or program shall not be reason for disciplinary action or academic penalty.

Parents/guardians shall be provided the opportunity to preview all print and non-print materials used for instructional purposes.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/27-9.1, 5/27-9.2, 5/27-13.2, 5/27-17, 5/27-23.1, 5/27-23.3, 5/27-23.5, 5/27-26, and 110/3.

APPROVED: