

Notice to Parents

Dear Parent,

A series of lessons about HIV/AIDS will be taught during selected classes in grades 4-6. The philosophy for the Keller Independent School District HIV/AIDS curriculum is attached. The curriculum is available for review at each school and the Administration Building. If you choose for your child not to participate, the curriculum will be sent home for you to provide instruction on HIV/AIDS. Please talk with your child about what he/she is learning about HIV/AIDS and encourage him/her to ask questions. By working together we can encourage our children to make healthy, safe decisions. If you have further questions, please contact your child's school or teacher.

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I certify that I am the parent/guardian of _____

_____ Yes, I do want my child to participate in the HIV/AIDS curriculum

_____ No, I do NOT want my child to participate in the HIV/AIDS curriculum. I understand that I will be responsible for teaching the curriculum provided by the district.

Parent Signature

Date

Philosophy

The philosophy of the Keller Independent School District is to educate and assist students so that they make intelligent, safe decisions. Keller schools will remain committed to educating students to be productive, healthy citizens who will contribute to maintaining and strengthening the quality of life in our community, state, nation, and world.

These concepts will be presented in an age appropriate manner utilizing the TEKS (Texas Knowledge and Skills). HIV/AIDS will not be addressed in grades K-3. The curriculum utilizes a variety of teaching methods to provide basic information, address social pressures, model and practice communication, develop negotiation and refusal skills, and send clear consistent messages reinforcing abstinence.

The curriculum will focus on the following:

- Emphasis will be placed on students seeking out their parents as the primary source of information.
- The information given is based on current scientific knowledge and will be updated as new facts are discovered.
- In grades K-3, the focus is placed on communicable and non-communicable diseases and healthy behaviors. In grades 4-5, the focus is on non-sexual transmission of HIV/AIDS such as blood-to-blood contact. In grade 6, the transmission of HIV/AIDS will include blood-to-blood contact, as well as sexual transmission, with a primary focus on abstinence.
- The HIV/AIDS curriculum and instructional materials that are provided for lessons or units will be available for parent review in total or by grade level at any time.
- Parents will be allowed to request that their child(ren) not participate in class activities and instruction should that be the family decision. When such requests are made, materials and curriculum will be provided to parents for instructing students at home.
- Teachers in grades 4-6 will receive training on the HIV/AIDS curriculum initially and when significant changes are made.