

FAMILY LIFE/HUMAN SEXUALITY

The School Board believes that a wholesome, well-planned sequence of instruction about family life and human sexuality is essential to the general education of all students. Lack of information or pervasive misinformation can cause low self-esteem, increased risk for sexually transmitted disease, unintended pregnancy or sterility, and school dropout. The district curriculum shall help students understand the biological, psychological, social, moral, and ethical aspects of human sexuality.

The family life/human sexuality program shall encourage students to be abstinent and to conceptualize sexual behavior in the ethical and moral context of marriage. The program shall be age-appropriate and shall address a full range of topics, including parenting and birth control, and shall emphasize that abstinence from sex is the only totally effective protection against unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

Teachers who provide instruction in family life/human sexuality shall have professional preparation, either preservice or inservice, in the subject area.

Except as provided in AS 14.30.355 and 14.30.356 providing for parent notification not less than two weeks, before any activity, class, or program that includes content involving gender identity, human reproduction, or sexual matter is provided to a child, the child's parent shall:

- (a) receive notification not less than two weeks before the activity, class, or program; and**
- (b) provide written permission for the child to participate in the activity, class, or program.**

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that family life/human sexuality materials and instruction are continuously evaluated in light of information received from students, parents/guardians, and teachers, including information about what students did or did not learn, whether the program was workable for the teachers, and how it can be improved.

The Superintendent or designee may appoint a Family Life/Human Sexuality Advisory Committee representing a divergence of viewpoints to participate in planning, implementing and evaluating the district's family life/human sexuality program.

At the parent/guardian's request, any student may be excused from any part of family life/human sexuality instruction.

As described in AS 14.30.361 (b) Before curriculum, literature, or materials related to sex education, human reproduction education, or human

sexuality education may be used in a class or program or distributed in a school, the curriculum, literature, or materials must be:

- (1) approved by the school board; and**
- (2) available for parents to review**

**MATANUSKA SUSITNA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
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