

POLICY

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

File Code: 6142.13

HIV PREVENTION EDUCATION

The board of education believes HIV education should be integrated into the comprehensive health education curriculum, but may also be applied to other curriculum areas.

The district HIV education program must address, at a minimum, the nature, transmission, prevention and effects of the disease. The program shall be provided through a coordinated sequential elementary and secondary curriculum, taking into consideration the age, growth, development and maturity of the pupils and the subject matter of the course. Development of the program should take into account the instructional needs of all pupils in the district.

The chief school administrator shall ensure that the information presented as a part of the HIV prevention education program is articulated in such a way that transition from grade to grade in the elementary schools and from elementary to secondary approaches to the material will be appropriate for all pupils.

The chief school administrator shall be responsible for the preparation and development of an HIV prevention education program, with active consultation and participation of an advisory committee* consisting of teachers, administrators, parents/guardians, pupils (as appropriate), physicians, members of social and health service agencies, members of the clergy and representative members of the community. The board shall appoint the members of the committee upon the recommendation of the chief school administrator. The advisory committee shall be responsible for reviewing the instructional program and all materials to be used and, through the chief school administrator, for recommending same for board adoption.

The chief school administrator shall ensure that all staff involved in teaching the HIV prevention education program are properly certified for the subject area in which they are teaching and adequately prepared to teach the material. As necessary, appropriate staff training shall be provided.

Upon request, the HIV education curriculum will be made available to parents/guardians for their review. The superintendent will establish procedures whereby pupils whose parents/guardians presents to the chief school administrator a signed statement that a designated part of the instruction is in conflict with his/her conscience, morals or religious beliefs will be excused from that part of the curriculum. An alternative educational opportunity shall be provided during the time a pupil is excused from part or the entire program. The alternative educational opportunity will include topics that do not conflict with the parents/guardians beliefs but fall within the same subject area (i.e. comprehensive health education) as the program from which the pupil is excused. There shall be no loss of class credit or credit toward graduation from such an exemption.

The chief school administrator shall establish a process for evaluating and updating the HIV prevention education program to incorporate new information. Any such revisions shall be implemented after consultation with and review by an advisory committee as described above.

The board of education alone, upon the recommendation of the chief school administrator, shall determine the content, sequence, and materials of the HIV prevention education program. The Board shall ensure compliance with all requirements of state and federal law concerning the content of the curriculum and distribution of materials.

*An advisory committee is an effective means used by districts when the law specifies that curriculum be developed through appropriate consultation and participation of groups and individuals.

Date adopted: 12/8/03

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