

## Human Sexuality Policy

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### Resource(s):

- 53A-13-101 Instruction in health – Parental consent requirements
- 53A-13-301 Utah Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
- R277-474 School Instruction and Human Sexuality

### I. Definitions

- Human Sexuality Instruction or Instructional Programs:** Any course, unit, class, activity, or presentation that, as a focus of discussion, provides instruction or information to students about sexual abstinence, human sexuality, human reproduction, reproductive anatomy, physiology, pregnancy, marriage, childbirth, parenthood, contraception, sexual abuse, sexual assault, rape, HIV/AIDS, or sexually transmitted diseases.
- Parent:** The parent or legal guardian of a student.
- Parent/Guardian Consent Form – Human Sexuality Instruction:** The form developed by the Utah State Office of Education which must be used by East Hollywood High School for parental notification of human sexuality instruction, maturation programs, and human sexuality instructional programs.

### II. Purpose and Procedures for Implementation

- The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the EHHS's human sexuality curriculum and instruction complies with state law.
- EHHS's Board of Trustees requires that all instructional materials, speakers, special programs, and resource agencies used in any human sexuality presentation be reviewed and approved annually by the board.
- The committee's composition and duties are governed by Utah law, Utah State Office of Education (USOE) regulations, Utah's core curriculum requirements, and other applicable board policies and procedures. EHHS must use the USOE's "Parent Notification Form" to notify parents of and obtain consent for student participation in human sexuality instruction.
- Educators must also comply with the USOE's training requirements regarding laws and rules specific to human sexuality curriculum and instruction.
- Human sexuality instruction or instructional programs are most likely discussed in such courses as health education, health occupations, human biology, physiology, parenting, adult roles, psychology, sociology, child development, and biology. However, these procedures apply to any course or class in which human sexuality instruction is the focus of discussion.

### III. Parental Permission Required

- A. No student may receive any instruction on human sexuality until parental permission has been obtained.
- B. EHHS shall provide each parent or guardian with a parental notification form which:
  - 1. Explains a parent's right to review proposed curriculum materials in a timely manner.
  - 2. Requests the parent's permission to instruct their child in identified course material related to human sexuality.
  - 3. Allows the parent to exempt their child from attendance for class periods while identified course material related to human sexuality is presented and discussed.
  - 4. Is specific enough to give parents fair notice of topics to be covered; and includes a brief explanation of the topics and materials to be presented and provides a time, place, and contact person for review of the identified curricular materials.
- C. Students may not receive any instruction on human sexuality until the parental notification form has been signed and returned to the teacher.
- D. Forms will be kept on file at the school for a minimum of one (1) year.
- E. If a student's parent chooses not to have the student participate in human sexuality instruction, the school shall:
  - 1. Waive the requirement for the student to participate; or
  - 2. Provide the student with a reasonable alternative to the human sexuality instruction requirements.
- F. If a student does not participate in human sexuality instruction pursuant to Section (E) above, the parent, in cooperation with the teacher or school, will take responsibility for the student's human sexuality instruction.
- G. A student's academic or citizenship performance may not be penalized if the student's parent chooses not to have the student participate in human sexuality instruction.

#### IV. Complaints and Violations

- A. Complaints and concerns should initially be handled at the school level between parents, teachers, and administrators.
- B. Each school will log and track complaints and comments resulting from student participation in human sexuality instruction. The EHHS will report the disposition of complaints to the Utah State Office of Education (USOE) upon request.
- C. Licensed educators will individually record parent and community complaints or comments regarding human sexuality instructional programs and will document their responses.
- D. Complaints that cannot be settled at the school level should be sent in writing to the EHHS healthy lifestyles supervisor who will forward the complaint to the EHHS human sexuality committee for review.
- E. EHHS's Director shall report educators who willfully violate these procedures or applicable state law to the Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission for investigation and possible discipline.

V. EHHS's Human Sexuality Committee

- A. EHHS Human Sexuality Committee Membership
  - 1. The committee will consist of board members, healthy lifestyles and biology teacher's, principal, and parents.
- B. There must be as many parents as school employees on the committee.
- C. Proposed membership will be submitted yearly to the board for approval.

2. The EHHS healthy lifestyles teacher will serve as co-chair along with an elected member from the committee.
- B. Duties of the committee
1. Authorize the use of human sexuality instructional programs or maturation education programs previously approved by the State Board of Education.
  2. Review and adopt instructional materials that are medically accurate and comply with state law.
    - a) Instructional materials will be available for reasonable review opportunities to EHHS residents prior to consideration for adoption.
    - b) Instructional materials must be approved in a public meeting by a majority vote of the board members present.
  3. Review and approve all instructional materials, speakers, special programs, and resource agencies used in any human sexuality presentation.
- C. The committee must review and approve all guest speakers and guest presenters and their respective materials relating to human sexuality instruction to ensure that the information sought to be presented is medically accurate and complies with state law.
- D. Committee approval must be given prior to any presentation being made in the classroom.
1. Review of prior approvals
    - a) Instructional materials will be reviewed every two (2) years from the initial date of approval to check for medical accuracy and compliance with state law.
    - b) Speakers, special programs, and resource agencies will verify in writing at the beginning of each school year that there have been no changes to their previously-approved presentations.
      - (1) Any changes must be reviewed and approved by the committee prior to their presentations.
  2. Hear appeals, complaints, or other special matters pertaining to existing human sexuality education programs, policies, or materials that have not been resolved at the school level.
  3. Submit an annual written report to the board by May 31 of each year which summarizes the work performed by the committee and any complaints or concerns that were received by the EHHS related to the EHHS's human sexuality instruction or instructional programs.
  4. Update annually the Approved Materials List which may be publicly accessed through the health curriculum page on the EHHS's website.

## VI. Training

- A. All newly hired or newly assigned educators with responsibility for any aspect of human sexuality instruction will attend state-sponsored professional development outlining the human sexuality curriculum and the criteria for human sexuality instruction in any course offered in the public education system.
  
- B. EHHS will hold a training every three (3) years for all educators with the responsibility for any aspect of human sexuality instruction.