

SITE OPERATIONS CIRCULAR NO. 1003

Office of Secondary Schools

SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date: August 4, 2015

To: Principals, Grades 6-12

Subject: PARENTAL NOTIFICATION OF INSTRUCTION ABOUT HUMAN REPRODUCTION AND SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES, INCLUDING HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV)/ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS)

Department and/or Persons Concerned:

Principals, Vice Principals, Family Life/Sex Education Teachers, School Nurses, School Counselors, Science Teachers

Due Date: August 28, 2015

Reference: Administrative Procedure 4188; Site Operations Circulars 1008 and 1009; CA Education Code 51930-51939

Action Requested: Arrange for parent preview of materials; send notification letter to parents

Brief Explanation:

Prior to providing instruction in comprehensive sexual health education or HIV/AIDS prevention education, Education Code 51938 requires schools to notify parents of the instruction and to make materials available for parents to review. School districts should notify parents/guardians at the beginning of the school year or at least 14 days prior to instruction. The notice shall address the following:

1. Advise the parent/guardian that written and audio-visual educational materials used in comprehensive sexual health education and HIV/AIDS prevention education are available for examination at the school.
2. Advise the parent/guardian whether the comprehensive sexual health education or HIV/AIDS prevention education will be taught by school district personnel or by outside agencies.
3. Advise the parent/guardian of their right to request a copy of Education Codes pertaining to sex education and HIV/AIDS instruction.
4. Advise the parent/guardian that they may request in writing that their child be exempt from comprehensive sexual health education or HIV/AIDS prevention education.

5. These parental notification, preview, and exemption requirements only apply to sexual health education or HIV/AIDS prevention education. These requirements *do not apply* to instruction or materials that discuss gender, sexual orientation, or family life and do not discuss reproductive organs and their functions (CA Ed Code 51932.b). For more information about these particular topics, please refer to CA Ed Code regarding Comprehensive Health Education (51880-51921) and Required Courses of Study (51204.5). For further information or guidance, please contact
R. Vernon Moore in the Office of Youth Advocacy at rmoore@sandi.net.

Parent preview meetings are conducted *by site staff who will be implementing the sex education program*. The meetings can be held in conjunction with Open House or other scheduled school events. If a site decides not to hold a formal preview, parents must still be provided an opportunity to review materials prior to class instruction. Information and materials for the preview are available from the Physical Education, Health and Athletics Department. Please email Nita Vjaters at jvjaters@sandi.net two weeks prior to your scheduled Parent Preview to ensure delivery of materials.

If you are using programs/materials on sexuality education or HIV/AIDS prevention that is different from the approved District curriculum, material must be approved by the Sexual Health Education Advisory Committee prior to use. Contact Kim Belasco at kbelasco@sandi.net or Rachel Miller at rmiller@sandi.net to request curriculum review.

Sample parent notification letters in multiple languages that fulfill the above stated legal requirements are available on the district website at www.sandi.net/depts/sex_ed / Teacher and Staff Resources / Parent Notification. These letters may be included in the enrollment packet distributed to students at the beginning of the school year or sent to students' homes at a later date. Please note that schools cannot require active parental consent for required instruction.

If additional information is needed, please contact Scott Giusti at (619) 725-7126.

Scott Giusti
Director Physical Education,
Health and Interscholastic Athletics

APPROVED:



Cheryl Hibbeln
Executive Director
Office of Secondary Schools

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