

THE LAW & YOU

Human Sexuality Education Classroom Teacher Legal Obligation Information

Human Sexuality in Education

Sexuality Education is a lifelong process of acquiring information and forming attitudes, beliefs, and values about one's own sexual identity and personal relationships. Sexuality education encompasses interpersonal relationships, gender roles, reproductive health and sexual development. Consistent with Michigan School Code, sexuality education must promote abstinence from sex as a responsible method for restricting and preventing diseases and as a positive lifestyle for unmarried young people.

Human Sexuality may include:

- Abstinence
- Birth Control
- Drugs/Alcohol
- Human Reproduction
- Relationships
- Risk Situations
- Sexual Harassment
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- Teen Pregnancy/Pregnancy
- Violence

Legal Obligation of Public Schools

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Teacher training is required in Monroe County. This means if you do not have Human Sexuality train-



ing, then you should not be teaching or discussing these topics. Our school district requires documentation on file.

CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

Human Sexuality Education is determined by the district in conjunction with the Michigan School code.

TEACHERS

- Must include abstinence in classroom discussions, curriculum, and other instructional topics.
- May not distribute family planning devices.
- May not teach clinical abortion as a means of family planning or birth control.

BOARD OF EDUCATION'S ROLE

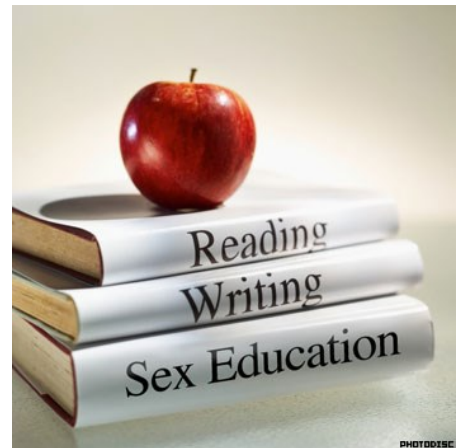
Board approval: District Human Reproductive Health Committee — Definition of Human Sexuality in Education — Public Hearings (2) required to approve Human Sexuality related curriculum.

PARENTAL RIGHTS

- Parent notification required. May preview materials.
- Parents can choose an annual or continuing opt-out for a non-required lesson/class.
- Teachers must provide a non-sexuality education alternate lesson when student opts out with no loss of class credit.

This Means YOU!!!

No matter what your subject area, there may be times that the teaching of Human Sexuality applies to **YOU!**



ENGLISH — Writing, novels, or other stories, opinion/debate papers on ethnical issues.

SOCIAL STUDIES/HISTORY — Current events, historical perspectives of cultural, birth, death, sexuality practices, diversity issues related to hate crimes.

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Bedford Public Schools • District Human Reproductive Health Committee
HEALTH & DRUG EDUCATION

Educating for Life!

Continued...

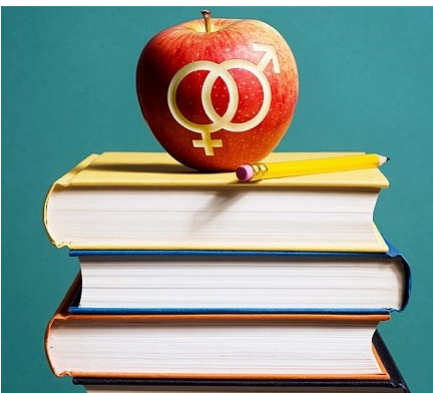
SCIENCE — Genetics, cloning, birth defects, human anatomy, writing.

MATH — Graphs of at-risk behavior rates.

TECHNOLOGY — Internet applications, graphics, web pages, e-mail, chat, etc.

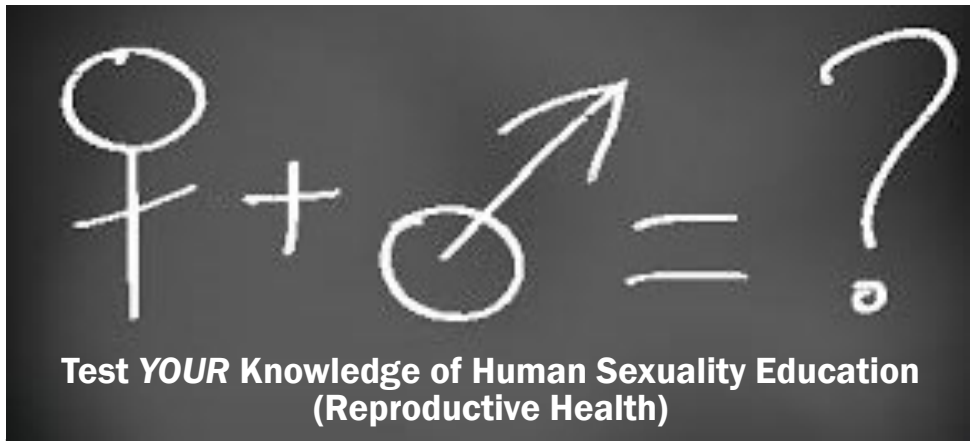
HEALTH & LIFE MANAGEMENT — Personal safety, AIDS/HIV, dating violence, sexual harassment, blood borne pathogens, intimacy, growth and development.

OTHER — This includes any area in education dependent on circumstances. Problem solving, impact papers, videos, guest speakers, class discussions, or writing.



Sex or sexual contact with an individual under the age of 16 is a crime punishable by imprisonment.

One of the other results of being convicted of this crime may be to be listed on the sex offender registry on the internet for 15 years, 25 years, or life.



THE QUESTIONS?

THE ANSWERS!

- | | |
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| 1. Is our district in compliance with the State of Michigan requirements for Human Sexuality Education? | 1. Yes. |
| 2. What is our Board of Education policy towards the teaching of these lessons? | 2. The guidelines for the Michigan School Code Act 451 of 1976 revised 1996. (www.mi.gov/mde) |
| 3. Are there questions I cannot answer in the classroom due to our district's policy? | 3. Possibly. If you feel unsure about questions or topics, refer your student(s) to a qualified sexuality educator or your building administrator. |
| 4. What outside and/or internal resources are available to help my students, their families, and me? | 4. Michigan law and district Sexuality Committee. |
| 5. What if I do not think that Human Sexuality Education applies to me? | 5. Think again! Protect yourself by knowing Human Sexuality, the law, and YOU. |

How do I know if what I am doing is OK BE SAFE...BE SURE!

If you are not sure about any topic area, contact:

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction & Student Services,
Mark French, at 734-850-6025 or mark.french@mybedford.us

District Human Reproductive Health Committee Co-Chairs:
Karen Weis & Abby Stanger
734-850-6034



Educating for Life!

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