



Parents or Legal Guardians,

This letter is to notify you that an age-appropriate human sexuality and responsibility unit focusing on health, safety and well-being is taught to all Austin ISD students. The unit is taught to students in kindergarten through high school in the months of November/December and during the months of April/May for students enrolled in the high school health education course for the Spring semester. During 2018-19, Austin ISD's Board of Trustees voted to revise the Human Sexuality and Responsibility Scope and Sequence for grades three through eight. As a result, staff have rewritten the third through eighth grade lessons to align to the recently approved scope and sequence. AISD revised the lessons based on community feedback. The kindergarten through second grade curriculum is currently being revised and will go to the Board of Trustees for approval early in the 2021 Fall semester.

Content Summary

The district's human sexuality and responsibility curriculum provides information and skill development in physical, emotional, mental and social health. The unit is aligned to the [National Sexuality Education Standards](#) which includes content on healthy relationships, personal safety, identity, anatomy and physiology, puberty, reproduction and sexually transmitted diseases. Topics are introduced and presented at age-appropriate grade levels. As required by state law and [AISD Board Policy EHAA](#) (Legal) and (Local), abstinence will remain a focus of all appropriate grade level lessons. The [AISD Human Sexuality and Responsibility web page](#) provides the unit overviews by grade level, lessons, a copy of this letter, links to opt-in letters and other related resources.

Curriculum Review

All current curriculum materials used in human sexuality instruction are available in each campus library for reasonable public inspection (Education Code 28.004[j]) at any time. 3rd - 8th grade materials are also posted on the AISD Health Education website. Audio-visual materials, as applicable, will be made accessible to parents following a written request to the principal. If approved, the kindergarten through second grade lessons will be posted on the Health Education website. Some of the high school materials are copyrighted, therefore, families must go to the campus library to view these materials. The high school overview is available on the Health Education website.

Orientation Meeting

Prior to the implementation of the sexuality education program, the principal will conduct at least one orientation meeting for families. At this meeting, parents/legal guardians will have an opportunity to learn more about the HSR policies, curriculum, the opt-in process, and may ask questions. Parents/legal guardians will receive reasonable written notice of the time and location of the orientation session at their student's school. All school orientation sessions will be scheduled during the fall semester before the unit is taught.

Permission Process

A parent/legal guardian will choose whether or not to allow their student to participate in all or part of the human sexuality and responsibility curriculum by completing the HSR permission letter. Campuses will send the HRS permission letters home at least two weeks prior to instruction. The HSR permission letters will include lesson topics and discussion questions for parents. Students who opt-out will be provided alternative lessons that support social and emotional learning. These

students will not be punished in any manner for nonparticipation. The permission letters are located on the [Human Sexuality and Responsibility website](#).

School Health Advisory Council Roles

Under AISD Board Policy EHAA (Legal) and (Local), the School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) shall review and make recommendations to the district about any changes to the current human sexuality curriculum or any new program to be implemented. On an annual basis, the SHAC shall review the health education curriculum, including human sexuality education, and make recommendations. SHAC shall hold two public feedback meetings if any curriculum is being revised.

Opportunities for Parent Involvement

Parents may attend SHAC meetings and offer suggestions for revision of the curriculum during the public comments/citizen's communications portions of the meeting or in writing submitted to SHAC. More information may be found on the [SHAC website](#).

Parents may also attend their Campus Advisory Councils (CACs) or campus committees. CACs are composed of teachers, parents/guardians, staff and secondary students. Parents may assist with the planning and implementation regarding this unit such as when to teach the unit during the identified time, and who will teach the lessons on their campus.

Additionally, families have access to resources to use on the [AISD Human Sexuality and Responsibility web page](#). The district's Office of Academics is also a resource for any parent seeking support in providing instruction directly to their child in the home.

Grievance Procedures

A parent may use the grievance procedure at [FNG](#) concerning a complaint of a violation of notice requirements.

Please visit the [AISD Human Sexuality and Responsibility web page](#) for possible updates regarding human sexuality and responsibility curriculum. Parents/Legal guardians may also contact their campus principal for any additional information or questions.