

Memo

To: Dori Leyko, ELPS Superintendent

From: Anne Scott, ELPS Sex Education Supervisor; Melisa Fore, SEAB Co-Chair; Danny Hearit, SEAB Co-Chair

Date: October 13, 2025

Subject: 9th -12th Grade HIV/STI and Sex Education Curriculum Approval Recommendation: Rights, Respect and Responsibility by Advocates for Youth

The East Lansing Public Schools (ELPS) currently uses the Michigan Model for Health's HIV/STI and sex education curriculum as its base curriculum in upper middle school and high school health classrooms (grades 7-12). In response to feedback on the limitations of the current curriculum, the district's Sex Education Advisory Board (SEAB) began exploring affordable, digitally accessible, comprehensive curriculum options that align with current national standards for sexual health education and meet Michigan's requirements for HIV and sex education to ensure ELPS students receive the most inclusive, comprehensive, and up-to-date education on HIV prevention and sexual health.

In accordance with district policy 5407 (ELPS Curriculum Adoption Process), the by-laws of the East Lansing Public School's Sex Education Advisory Board (SEAB), and the state of Michigan's HIV and Sex Education regulations, the East Lansing Public School's Sex Education Advisory Board (SEAB) engaged in a process to review and adopt an updated HIV/STI and sexual health curriculum for 7th through 12th grades. Over the 2024-25 school year, a committee of district staff and SEAB members reviewed curriculum options which identified "[Rights, Respect, and Responsibility \(Michigan Aligned -2023\)](#)", published through Advocates for Youth, as meeting the SEAB's criteria for inclusiveness, comprehensiveness, digital availability and up-to-date alignment with Michigan state requirements and national HIV prevention and sexual health standards. After reviewing the results of lesson pilots conducted at the end of the 2024-25 school year, the ELPS SEAB determined that *Rights, Respect, and Responsibility* (High School Lessons) was the best option to replace the *Michigan Model for Health "Healthy and Responsible Relationships: HIV, Other STIs, and Pregnancy Prevention"* for high school health classrooms (grades 9-12).

["Rights, Respect, and Responsibility \(Michigan Aligned -2023\)"](#) and associated teacher training and instruction support are available at no cost to the district. The whole curriculum (lessons and supportive materials) is publicly accessible online. This added accessibility feature enhances the district's transparent process for meeting its [legal obligation](#) to ensure that parents and/or legal guardians have the opportunity to review content and materials before instruction.

The ELPS Sex Education Advisory Board (SEAB) recommends that the ELPS Board of Education accept this recommendation and consider approval of [Rights, Respect, and Responsibility \(Michigan Aligned, High School Lessons -2023\)](#) to replace *Michigan Model for Health "Healthy and Responsible Relationships: HIV, Other STIs, and Pregnancy Prevention"* for high school health classrooms (grades 9-12).