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Sex Education
Policy Series: 4000 Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
Policy No. 4023

Health Education Curriculum: Human Sexuality ~~Sex Education~~

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Definitions

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13 “Curriculum materials review committee” means a committee formed at the District or school
14 level that includes parents, health professionals, school health educators, and administrators,
15 with at least as many parents as school employees.

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17 “Sex education instruction or instructional programs” means any course material, unit, class,
18 lesson, activity, or presentation providing instruction regarding sexual abstinence, human
19 sexuality, human reproduction, reproductive anatomy, physiology, pregnancy, marriage,
20 childbirth, parenthood, contraception, HIV/AIDS or other sexually transmitted diseases, or
21 refusal skills.

22
23 “Refusal skills” means instruction regarding refusal of sexual advances, sexual harassment
24 awareness, reporting rights, and legal consent limitations.

25
26 “Maturation education” means age-appropriate instruction regarding puberty, hygiene, abuse
27 prevention, and emotional changes.

28
29 “Medically accurate” means verified through peer-reviewed scientific research recognized by
30 professional organizations and agencies with expertise in the relevant field.

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Sex Education Curriculum Materials Review Committee

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33 The Board of Education shall appoint a District ~~Human Sexuality~~ Sex Education Curriculum
34 Materials Review Committee (referred to in Provo as the ~~Health Education Curriculum Review~~
35 ~~Committee~~). This committee shall be composed of a board member, parents, health
36 professionals, school health educators, and administrators. It is the board’s intention to have at
37 least as many parent members as school employee members. The Board shall review the
38 membership of the committee by August 1 of each year, making new appointments as

39 ~~necessary or appropriate.~~ composed of parents, health professionals, school health educators,
40 and administrators, with at least as many parent members as school employee members.

41 ~~The Board shall appoint and review committee membership annually by August 1.~~

42 ~~The District Health Education Curriculum Review Committee shall meet on an as needed basis,~~
43 ~~or as determined by the members of the committee, but not less than one annual meeting per~~
44 ~~year. The committee shall establish procedures for operation, and shall designate a chair. The~~
45 ~~District Health Education Curriculum Review Committee shall review support materials such as:~~
46 ~~videos, and guest speakers, or guest presentations for alignment with the Utah State Board of~~
47 ~~Education, Human Sexuality Core and the have the authority to represent the Board in~~
48 ~~approving or disapproving the support material.~~

49 The committee shall:

- 50 ● meet on a regular basis as determined by the members of the committee;
- 51 ● select its own officers;
- 52 ● establish operational procedures;
- 53 ● designate a chair; and
- 54 ● comply with the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act.

55 Proposed instructional materials shall be available for public review a reasonable time before
56 Board consideration.

57 Parents and District residents shall be provided an opportunity to express views regarding
58 proposed materials at a public meeting.

59 District residents may appeal adopted instructional materials by written submission to the Board.

60 The Board shall refer the appeal to the District Sex Education Curriculum Materials Review
61 Committee for recommendations regarding the response to the appeal.

62 The Board shall annually review adopted instructional materials and consider whether continued
63 use is appropriate.

64 Annual review shall include available county data regarding:

- 65 ● teen pregnancy;
- 66 ● child sexual abuse;
- 67 ● sexually transmitted diseases and infections; and
- 68 ● pornography complaints or related incidents within the district.

69 **Students**

70 ~~Students may not participate in any human sexuality instruction or instructional program unless,~~
71 ~~prior to the student's participation, the school has on file for that student a completed parental~~
72 ~~notification form relating to that specific instruction or program which indicates that the student's~~

73 parent or guardian authorizes the student to participate. Completed permission forms shall be
74 requested annually and maintained in the student's educational records, by the teacher making
75 that request. Parents shall have made available to them, upon request, a copy and/or
76 opportunity to review any materials used in the teaching of the human sexuality content to their
77 student.

78

79 **Teachers**

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81 In their first year of service or assignment, all newly hired or newly assigned District staff who
82 have responsibility for any aspect of human sexuality instruction in the District will attend a
83 State-sponsored in-service outlining the human sexuality curriculum and the criteria for human
84 sexuality instruction in any courses offered in the public education system. All District staff that
85 has any responsibility for any aspect of human sexuality instruction in the District will attend
86 District training outlining the human sexuality curriculum and the criteria for human sexuality
87 instruction in any courses offered in the public education system at least once every three (3)
88 years.

89

90 **School Board**

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92 Before any guest speaker or guest presenter may present any information in any District course
93 relating to human sexuality instruction, the Health Education Curriculum Review Policy No. 4023
94 Page | 2 Policy 4023 Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment Committee must have approved the
95 speaker and/or presenter and the materials to be presented. The Board shall request that the
96 District Health Education Curriculum Review Committee shall represent them and determine
97 what human sexuality instructional materials are approved for use in the District. Such approved
98 materials must be medically accurate and must be consistent with the Health and Human
99 Sexuality Guidelines set forth above. The proposed materials will be available for review by
100 residents of the District a reasonable time in advance of the Review Committee meeting. If a
101 majority of the Committee members present vote to adopt the recommended materials, then the
102 materials may be used in the District. The Committee shall annually review the decision to adopt
103 the human sexuality instructional materials used in the District, and shall consider whether to
104 continue use of those materials.

105

106 **Sex Education Instruction Requirement**

107 Subject to parental permission, a student shall receive sex education instruction on at least two
108 occasions during the period beginning with grade 8 and ending with grade 12.

109

110 **Parental Notification and Permission Form Required for Participation**

111 Students may not participate in any sex education instruction or instructional program unless,
112 before participation, the school has on file a completed parental notification form relating to that
113 specific instruction or program authorizing participation.

114 The form shall:

- 115 1. Explain a parent's right to review proposed curriculum materials in a timely manner;
116 2. Request parental permission for identified course material related to sex education or
117 maturation education;
118 3. Allow a parent to exempt a student from attendance during identified instruction;
119 4. Be specific enough to provide fair notice of topics to be covered; and
120 5. Include a brief explanation of topics and materials presented and provide a time, place,
121 and contact person for curriculum review.

122 Completed permission forms shall be maintained in student educational records for a
123 reasonable period.

124 A student may refrain from participation based upon religious belief or right of conscience
125 consistent with District policy.

126 **Health and Sex Education Guidelines**

127 All health and sex education instruction shall stress abstinence before marriage and fidelity after
128 marriage as methods for preventing sexually transmitted diseases.

129 Instruction may not include:

- 130 1. The intricacies of intercourse, sexual stimulation, or erotic behavior;
131 2. Advocacy of premarital or extramarital sexual activity; or
132 3. Advocacy or encouragement of contraceptive methods or devices.

133 Instruction may not include responses to spontaneous student questions that facilitate or
134 encourage violation of state or federal criminal law.

135 Educators may correct inaccurate information and answer questions consistent with approved
136 instructional materials and may direct students to parents for additional discussion.

137 The District may provide instruction regarding contraceptive methods or devices if instruction
138 complies with Utah law and approved curriculum requirements.

139

140 **Sexual Abuse Prevention and Awareness**

141 Schools may provide instruction regarding child sexual abuse and human trafficking prevention
142 and awareness using State Board approved instructional materials.

143 Prior to instruction:

- 144 ● parents shall receive notice;
145 ● parents shall have opportunity to review materials;
146 ● parents may be present during instruction; and
147 ● parental permission must be received.

148 Upon written parental request, a student shall be excused from instruction.

149

150 **Instructional Staff Training and In-Service**

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152 District staff who have responsibility for some aspect of sex education instruction in the District
153 may include administrators, teachers, counselors, teacher assistants, or coaches, but are not
154 necessarily limited to those categories.

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156 In their first year of service or assignment, all newly hired or newly assigned District staff who
157 have responsibility for any aspect of sex education instruction in the District will attend a State-
158 sponsored in-service outlining the sex education curriculum and the criteria for sex education
159 instruction in any courses offered in the public education system.

160 All District staff that have any responsibility for any aspect of sex education instruction in the
161 District will attend District training outlining the sex education curriculum and the criteria for sex
162 education instruction in any courses offered in the public education system at least once every
163 three (3) years.

164

165 **Review of Guest Presentations Relating to Sex Education**

166 Before any guest speaker or guest presenter may present information in any District course
167 relating to sex education instruction, the speaker, presenter, and materials to be presented must
168 be approved by the District Sex Education Curriculum Materials Review Committee.

169 The committee shall not authorize the use of any sex education instructional program that has
170 not been previously approved for use in the District.

171 The Board of Education shall determine what sex education instructional materials will be used
172 in the District.

173 The Board shall request recommendations from the District Sex Education Curriculum Materials
174 Review Committee regarding proposed instructional materials.

175 Proposed instructional materials shall be medically accurate and consistent with District
176 guidelines.

177 Proposed instructional materials shall be available for public review a reasonable time before
178 Board consideration.

179 Parents and District residents shall be provided opportunity to express views regarding
180 proposed materials at a public meeting.

181 If adopted by the Board, District residents may appeal instructional materials by written
182 submission to the Board.

183 Following adoption of sex education instructional materials not previously approved by the State
184 Instructional Materials Commission, the Board shall report the adoption to the State Board of
185 Education consistent with Utah Administrative Rule R277-474.

186 The Committee shall annually review the decision to adopt the sex education instructional
187 materials used in the District, and shall consider whether to continue use of those materials.

188

189 **Monitoring of Sex Education Instruction**

190 Each school shall log and track parental or community complaints and comments regarding sex
191 education instruction, including disposition of complaints.

192 Information shall be provided monthly to District administration.

193 District administration shall maintain complaint records and provide information to the State
194 Superintendent upon request.

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197 **Synopsis:**

198 School instruction & sex education

199 Authority and Purpose; notice to parents LEA Responsibilities

200 Curriculum Materials Review Committee

201 Local Adoption of Instructional Material

202

203 **Legal References:**

204 [Utah Code § 53G-10-402](#)

205 [Utah Code § 53G-10-403](#)

206 [Utah Code § 53G-9-207](#)

207 [Utah Code § 53G-10-205](#)

208 [Utah Administrative Rule R277-474](#)

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210 **Board Approved:** June 9, 2015

211 Revised:

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