

Houston County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in November	Descriptor Term: Family Life Education	Descriptor Code: 4.213	Issued Date: 08/09/21
		Rescinds:	Issued:

General

A family life education program shall be implemented within the school district in compliance with state law.¹

A parent/guardian who chooses not to have a student participate in the family life education program shall submit such request in writing to the principal. A student who is excused from the program shall be assigned alternative health activities and shall not be penalized academically.

FAMILY LIFE INSTRUCTION

The curriculum for the family life education program shall, in a manner that is age-appropriate and factually and medically accurate, include the following:²

1. Teach the skills needed to make healthy decisions in all aspects of marriage and family life;
2. Encourage sexual health by helping students understand how the whole person is affected by sexual activity as well as other risk behaviors;
3. Provide information about human reproduction, including conception, birth, and prenatal care, as well as the process of adoption and its benefits;
4. Provide information on the family unit and the responsibilities and consequences related to sexual activity, including the challenges of single teen parenting;
5. Promote only sexual risk avoidance through abstinence and the positive results of avoiding sexual activity;
6. Provide instruction on the detection, intervention, prevention, and treatment of child sexual abuse, including such abuse that may occur in the home, and human trafficking in which a victim is the child;
7. Provide instruction on the prevention of dating violence;
8. Encourage communication between parent(s)/guardian(s) and students; and

9. Address the legal aspects of sexual activity with emphasis on the rights of the student.

The family life education program shall be reviewed annually to ensure that the prohibited items of instruction, as provided for in state law,³ are not included in the curriculum.

TRAINING ON INSTRUCTION

Personnel providing family life instruction shall receive training prior to presenting such instruction. Personnel shall conduct such instruction with maturity and discretion.

Legal References

1. TCA 49-6-1302; Public Acts of 2021, Chapter No. 290
2. TCA 49-6-1304
3. TCA 49-6-1304(b)