

Descriptor Term: SEX-RELATED EDUCATION

Descriptor Code: IDBA

Rescinds: IDBA

Board Approved: 5/21/2012

Previously Approved: 8/28/2006

The Gulfport School District will provide Abstinence Only sex-related instruction in grades six through eight. The curriculum for sex-related education instruction will be selected from a Mississippi Department of Education approved program and be approved by the Board of Trustees. Prior to instruction, the Principal will inform parents of the impending course of study. Those students whose parents or guardians make written notice to the building principal that instruction for the course of study is refused will not be required to participate. The curriculum will be made available for review upon parent request.

The course of study at no time will be used to:

1. Develop or distribute material, or operate programs or courses of instruction directed at youth that are designed to promote or encourage sexual activity,
2. Provide sex education or HIV-prevention education in schools unless that instruction is age-appropriate and includes the health benefits of abstinence, and
3. Operate a program of contraceptive distribution in schools.

This policy shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, as amended and with all other applicable federal and state laws.

Legal Ref: MS Code: Including but not limited to 37-13-171, 37-13-173, 37-13-175