

Chelsea School District
Sex Education Advisory Board
Recommendation for 4th-9th Grade Maturation and Sex Education Curriculum

To: Chelsea School District Board of Education

From: Sex Education Advisory Board

Date: June 23rd, 2025

Subject: Recommendation for Updates to 4th-9th Grade Maturation and Sex Education Curriculum

Rationale for the Recommended Changes

The SEAB conducted a detailed review of the district's reproductive health curriculum using two primary evaluation tools, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the current state of the curriculum.

1. [Goals and Objectives Rubric](#) (Attachment A) – Evaluating alignment with district educational goals and best practices.
2. [Standards Alignment Rubric](#) (Attachment B) – Assessing compliance with Michigan state health standards (6th grade example provided).

The review identified areas where existing content could be strengthened to better serve students and align with best practices. The following key findings support the proposed updates:

1. Enhanced Alignment with District and State Standards

- The current curriculum at grades 6th-9th grade mostly aligned with Michigan's reproductive health standards, but did not align with the Goals and Objectives outlined by the Sex Education Advisory Board.
- The current curriculum at 6th-9th grade was very dated and not engaging or relevant for students.
- The new 3R Curriculum aligns with Michigan's reproductive health standards and is widely recognized for its medically accurate, age-appropriate, and inclusive approach.

2. Age-Appropriate and Developmentally Informed Instruction

- The addition of Body Image and the Media in grades 4-5 addresses growing concerns about media influences on self-perception and body confidence.
- The "Everybody's Got Body Parts" and "Consent: It Goes with Everything" lessons in 6th grade reinforce healthy attitudes about body autonomy and consent at a critical developmental stage.

3. Inclusivity and Representation

- The current curriculum does not provide inclusive content, ensuring all students see themselves reflected in the lessons, videos, and activities provided.

- The 3R Curriculum provides developmentally appropriate discussions on relationships, consent, and decision-making, ensuring all students, regardless of their background, see themselves reflected in the content, promoting a sense of inclusivity and representation.
- In addition, by making supplemental lessons available upon request, we offer inclusive, factual information while providing flexibility for parental preferences.

4. Improved Family and Community Engagement

- Families can review all materials at the beginning of each school year, reinforcing a partnership between families and schools in student education. They can also opt out of any or all of the lessons offered.
- Families will receive advanced notification regarding the dates of instruction. At the end of the unit, they will also receive a letter or email outlining the concepts taught and at-home engagement opportunities.

Goals for the Review Process

The SEAB remains committed to ensuring that sex education in the Chelsea School District is comprehensive, medically accurate, and aligned with district and state standards. Our key objectives for the review process are:

- By June 2025, the SEAB will identify and recommend a comprehensive reproductive health curriculum 100% aligned with the Chelsea School District's reproductive health standards.
- To ensure full compliance, the board will review at least three curriculum options, conduct an alignment audit, and select and supplement materials as needed.
- Progress will be documented through quarterly meetings, with a final recommendation submitted to the Board of Education by the end of the school year.

Overview of Proposed Changes

Following a comprehensive review of the district's current reproductive health curriculum, the Sex Education Advisory Board (SEAB) recommends the following updates to the maturation and sex education program for grades 4-9:

4th and 5th Grade – South Elementary

- Maintain the current curriculum.
 - UPDATE: In 5th grade, add a Body Image and the Media lesson to enhance students' understanding of self-perception and external influences on body image.
 - UPDATE: Provide the [5th grade gender identity lesson](#) to parents/families as **supplementary** material.
- Both male and female instructors will deliver content (current practice).
- Students will be separated by gender (current practice).

6th-8th Grade – Beach Middle School

UPDATE: All 6th-8th Grade Lessons

- Adopt the [3R Curriculum: Michigan Version](#) as the primary instructional resource.
- Homework is optional
- Both male and female instructors will deliver content.

UPDATE: 6th Grade: Implement all core lessons and the following lessons from the supplemental lessons:

- *"Everybody's Got Body Parts Part 1 & 2"*
- *"Consent: It Goes with Everything"*
- UPDATE: Provide the ["Understanding Identity and Respecting Others"](#) lesson to parents/families as **supplementary** material.

UPDATE: 7th Grade: Implement all core lessons and;

- UPDATE: Add the ["Birth Control Basics"](#) lesson from the supplemental materials.
- UPDATE: Add ["I am Who I am"](#) and ["Blue is for Boys, Pink is for Girls...Or Are They?"](#) from supplemental materials.

UPDATE: 8th Grade: Implement all core lessons and;

- UPDATE: Add the ["Birth Control Basics"](#) lesson from the supplemental materials.
- UPDATE: Add the lesson ["Understanding Identity: Gender, Orientation and Respect"](#) from the supplemental materials.

9th Grade – Chelsea High School

UPDATE: Adopt the [3R Curriculum: Michigan Version](#) as the primary instructional resource and;

- UPDATE: Replace Lesson 9 from 3R curriculum with [CSD Revised "Know Your Options" Lesson](#).
 - UPDATE: Add ["Understanding Gender"](#) and ["Orientation, Behavior and Identity"](#) from the supplemental lessons.
 - Homework is optional.
 - Both male and female instructors will deliver content.
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Next Steps & Implementation Timeline

To ensure a smooth transition, the SEAB proposes the following timeline:

Milestone	Predicted Timeline	Real Timeline
SEAB finalizes curriculum recommendation	March 2025	May 2025
Conduct two public hearings, one week apart	April 2025	Meeting #1: May 30th, 9-10am Meeting #2: June 11th, 6-7pm
Board of Education reviews the curriculum	May 2025	June 23rd, 2025
Board of Education votes on the curriculum	June 2025	July TBD
Teacher training on new materials	August 2025	August 2025
Curriculum implementation begins	Fall 2025	Fall 2025

Progress Monitoring:

- The SEAB is committed to addressing any concerns that may arise during the implementation phase. We will hold quarterly meetings to assess progress, address concerns, and make any necessary adjustments to ensure the successful implementation of the new curriculum.
- The SEAB will conduct a community survey at the end of the 2025/26 school year to gather feedback on the new curriculum and materials.

Conclusion

The proposed changes reflect a thoughtful, research-based approach to reproductive health education that balances state compliance, developmental appropriateness, and community values. We believe that these changes will significantly enhance student learning and well-being in grades 4-9, providing them with the knowledge and skills they need to make informed decisions about their health and relationships. We respectfully request that the Board of Education approve this recommendation.

Sincerely,
Michelle Hilla and Reiley Curran
Co-Chairs, Sex Education Advisory Board
Chelsea School District