

Human Sexuality Instruction and Identity Instruction

The District recognizes the right of a parent or guardian to withdraw a child from instruction or an organized school function regarding human sexuality instruction. Such withdrawals will be classified as an excused absence.

“Human sexuality instruction” means “instruction that has the goal or purpose of studying, exploring, or informing students about any of the following human sexuality topics: intimate relationships, sexual anatomy, sexual reproduction, sexually transmitted infections, sexual acts, abstinence, contraception, or reproductive rights and responsibilities.”

The District recognizes the right of a parent or guardian to consent in writing to a child participating in identity instruction at the beginning of each school year. A child is excused from participating in identity instruction unless the child fails to attend the identity instruction after the parent or guardian has consented to the child’s attendance in such instruction. A parent or guardian may withdraw permission for a child to participate in identity instruction at any time by providing written notice to the Superintendent.

“Identity instruction” means “instruction that has the goal or purpose of studying, exploring, or informing students about gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation.”

“Instruction” means the “conduct of organized learning activities, including the provision of materials, for students in a public school, whether conducted by a teacher or other school staff or guests invited at the request of the school or district and regardless of the duration, venue, or method of delivery.”

A teacher’s response to an unexpected student-initiated inquiry related to topics under this policy is not considered “human sexuality instruction” or “identity instruction” to the extent the response is necessary to resolve the inquiry or to maintain civility and decorum in the classroom.

Annual Notice and Availability of Materials

Using the contact information most recently provided by the parent or guardian, the District shall annually notify in advance the parent or guardian of each student scheduled to be enrolled in a course that includes units or lessons on human sexuality instruction or identity instruction regarding:

- the basic content of the human sexuality instruction or identity instruction intended to be taught and the option to review all curriculum materials related to human sexuality instruction or identity instruction in the course;

- the parent or guardian’s right to withdraw the student from human sexuality instruction; and
- the requirement for parental/guardian written permission to allow a child to attend identity instruction.

As part of the annual notice, the District will provide an electronic link to materials or summaries of materials, consistent with copyright laws, for:

- its health enhancement curriculum, including lesson plans or other materials used for human sexuality instruction or identity instruction; and
- a calendar of events or assemblies at which human sexuality instruction or identity instruction will be provided.

The District will make curriculum materials used in human sexuality instruction or identity instruction available for public inspection before use. This will occur on an annual basis. A summary of the District’s health enhancement curriculum will be available for public review each year.

Notice Prior to Events, Assemblies, or Introduction of Materials

Parents and guardians will be notified at least 5 school days but not more than 14 school days prior to holding an event or assembly or first introducing material for instructional use. Additional notices are not required.

No Abortion Curriculum

The District will not allow personnel to offer, sponsor, or furnish any course materials or instruction relating to human sexuality or sexually transmitted diseases if the person or entity provides abortion services.

Legal References:	§ 20-7-120, MCA	Parameters for K-12 Human Sexuality Education
	§ 20-5-103, MCA	Compulsory attendance and excuses
	10.55.701, ARM	Board of Trustees

Cross References:	Policy 2120	Curriculum Development, Content, and Assessment
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Policy History:

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