

Spring 2020

19-20 Sexual Health Curriculum

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This letter is to inform you that this trimester, students in grades 3-8 will be studying sexual health and development education as part of our school's health education program. Schools are required to provide comprehensive sexual health education that follow the requirements set forth in the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) 8321-11.1, Hawaii State Board of Education (BOE) Policy 103-5 (Attachment A), and aligns with state health education standards.

The curriculum is from Advocates for Youth: *Rights, Respect, Responsibility*. *Rights, Respect, Responsibility* builds 30 years of research into effective sexual health education programs, while respecting young people's right to the information they need to protect their health and make responsible decisions. It follows the National Sexuality Education Standards for what students should learn and be able to do at each grade level, and it is inclusive of learners of all genders and sexual orientations. *Rights, Respect, Responsibility* is intended for use with students in Kindergarten through 12th grade. Its lessons are scaffolded, and age-appropriate, beginning with basic lessons about friendship and safety, and introducing more complex concepts as students age. Parents may preview the curriculum at <http://bit.ly/VPCSSEXUALHEALTHED> or on our website at voyagerschool.com.

We invite you to learn more about being a partner in your child's sexual health education by attending our HOPE Parent Workshop on **Thursday, February 27th at 5:30pm in room 205**. Because of the sensitive nature of the information, only parents, guardians and staff are invited to attend. Thank you for making other arrangements for children during the HOPE Parent Workshop. Please RSVP for the workshop here: <http://bit.ly/1920HOPEPARENTS>

If you do not wish for your child to participate in the sexual health education lessons during the weeks of March 2-March 13, 2020 you may opt-out. To do so, please sign and return the form below.

OPT OUT FORM

- I have reviewed the sexual health curriculum and materials and would like my child to be excused from class when these lessons are taught. I understand my child's grade will not be negatively affected but he/she may be required to complete an alternative health related assignment.

Student's Name: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

Parent Legal Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Administrator Signature: _____

Date: _____

Make it a great day,



Evan Anderson
Principal

Attachment A

HAWAII BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 103-5

SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION



In order to help students make decisions that promote healthy behaviors, the Department of Education shall provide sexual health education to include age appropriate, medically accurate, health education that: (1) Includes education on abstinence, contraception, and methods of infection prevention to prevent unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infection, including human immunodeficiency virus; (2) Helps students develop relationships and **communication** skills to form healthy relationships that are based on mutual respect and affection and are **free from** violence, coercion and intimidation; (3) Helps students develop skills in critical thinking, problem solving, decision making and stress management to make healthy decisions about sexuality and relationships; (4) Encourages student to communicate with their parents, guardians and/or other trusted adults about sexuality; and (5) Informs students of available community resources. Instruction will emphasize that abstention from sexual intercourse is the surest way to prevent unintended pregnancies, **sexually transmitted** infections such as HIV/AIDS, and consequent **emotional distress**.

A description of the curriculum utilized by the school shall be made available to parents and shall be posted on the school's website prior to the start of any instruction. A student shall be excused **from** sexual health instruction only upon the prior written request of the student's parent or legal guardian. A student may not be subject to disciplinary action, academic penalty or other sanction if the student's parent or legal guardian makes such **written request**.

[Approved: 6/16/2015 (as Board Policy 103.5); amended: 06/21/2016 (renumbered as Board Policy 103-5)]

Former policy 2110 history: approved: 9/1995