

VENTURA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

BOARD POLICY NO. 6142.1

ADOPTED: 05/22/17
(Replaced BP 6142.2)

CLASSIFICATION: Curriculum/ Instruction

SUBJECT: Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction

The Ventura County Superintendent and Board of Education desire to provide a well-planned, integrated sequence of medically accurate and inclusive instruction on comprehensive sexual health and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prevention. Ventura County Office of Education, hereafter referred to as VCOE, shall provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to protect his or her sexual and reproductive health from unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases and to have healthy, positive, and safe relationships and behaviors. VCOE's educational program shall also provide the knowledge and skills students need to understand sexuality as a normal part of human development and to develop healthy attitudes and behaviors concerning adolescent growth and development, body image, gender, sexual orientation, relationships, marriage, and family.

Comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education shall be offered to all students in grades 6-12, including at least once in middle school and at least once in high school. VCOE's program may also provide comprehensive sexual health education or HIV prevention education consisting of age-appropriate and medically accurate information earlier than grade 6 and beyond grade 12.

VCOE's curriculum shall support the purpose of the California Healthy Youth Act as specified in Education Code 51930-51939, be unbiased and inclusive of all students in the classroom, and be aligned with the state's content standards. VCOE shall respect the rights of parents/guardians to supervise their children's education on these subjects and to impart values regarding human sexuality to their children.

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT

Annually, parents/guardians shall be notified, in the manner specified in the accompanying administrative regulation that they may request in writing that their child be excused from participating in comprehensive sexual health and HIV prevention education. Students so excused by their parent/guardian shall be given an alternative educational activity.

A student shall not be subject to disciplinary action, academic penalty, or other sanctions if the student's parent/guardian declines to permit the student to receive the instruction.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

220	Prohibition of discrimination
33544	Inclusion of sexual harassment and violence in health curriculum framework
48980	Notice at beginning of term
51202	Instruction in personal and public health and safety
51210.8	Health education curriculum
51225.35	Instruction in sexual harassment and violence; districts that require health education for graduation
51240	Excuse from instruction due to religious beliefs
51513	Materials containing questions about beliefs or practices
51930-51939	California Healthy Youth Act
67386	Student safety; affirmative consent standard

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

1255.7	Parents surrendering physical custody of a baby
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PENAL CODE

243.4	Sexual battery
261.5	Unlawful sexual intercourse
271.5	Parents voluntarily surrendering custody of a baby

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232h	Protection of student rights
7906	Sex education

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Promoting Healthy Relationships for Adolescents: Board Policy Considerations, Governance Brief, August 2014

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Health Education Content Standards for CA Public Schools, Kindergarten-Gr 12, 2008
Health Framework for California Public Schools: Kindergarten-Gr 12, 2003

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
CDE, Sex Education and HIV/STD Instruction: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/se>
California Department of Public Health: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov>
California Healthy Kids Resource Center: <http://www.californiahealthykids.org>
California Safe Schools Coalition: <http://www.casafeschools.org>
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>
U.S. Food and Drug Administration: <http://www.fda.gov>