



POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Policy: 4IP-415 SEX EDUCATION INSTRUCTION

Index: *Instructional Programs-Special Programs*

Monitoring: *As Needed*

1. PURPOSE

The Board of Directors at Spectrum Academy (Board) has adopted this policy to ensure Spectrum Academy (School) has the requirements and procedures that must take place in any course or class in which sex education instruction is the focus of discussion.

2. POLICY

2.1. Parental Permission Required

2.1.1. No student may receive any sex education instruction until parental permission has been obtained; i.e. until after the parental notification form has been signed and returned to the teacher.

2.2. The school shall provide each parent or guardian with a parental notification form which:

2.2.1. explains a parent's right to review proposed curriculum materials in a timely manner;

2.2.2. requests the parent's permission to instruct their child in identified course material related to sex education;

2.2.3. allows the parent to exempt their child from attendance for class periods when identified course material related to sex education is presented and discussed;

2.2.4. is specific enough to give parents fair notice of topics to be covered; and

2.2.5. includes a brief explanation of the topics and materials to be presented and provides a time, place, and contact person for review of the identified curricular materials.

2.3. Forms will be kept on file at the school for a minimum of one (1) year.

2.4. If a student's parent chooses not to have the student participate in sex education instruction, the school shall:

2.4.3. waive the requirement for the student to participate; or

2.4.4. provide the student with a reasonable alternative to the sex education instruction requirements.

2.4.5. If a student does not participate in sex education instruction pursuant to Section 2.4. above, the parent, in cooperation with the teacher or school, will take responsibility for the student's sex education instruction.

2.5. A student's academic or citizenship performance may not be penalized if the student's parent chooses not to have the student participate in sex education instruction.



2.6. Complaints and Violations

- 2.6.3. Complaints and concerns should initially be handled at the school level between parents, teachers, and administrators.
- 2.6.4. Each school will log and track complaints and comments resulting from student participation in sex education instruction. Spectrum Academy will report the disposition of complaints to the Utah State Board of Education (USBE) upon request.
- 2.6.5. Licensed educators will individually record parent and community complaints or comments regarding sex education instructional programs, and will document their responses.
- 2.6.6. Complaints that cannot be settled at the school level should be sent in writing to their respective regional director of academics, who will forward the complaint to the district human sexuality committee for review.
- 2.6.7. The executive director of academics shall report educators who willfully violate these procedures or applicable state law to the Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission for investigation and possible discipline.

2.7. District Human Sexuality Committee

2.7.3. Membership

- 2.7.3.1. The committee will consist of board members, the district healthy lifestyles supervisor, elementary and secondary teachers, principals, nurses, and parents.
- 2.7.3.2. There must be as many parents as school employees on the committee.
- 2.7.3.3. Parent representatives must have students currently enrolled in Spectrum Academy.
- 2.7.3.4. The board shall annually appoint and review members of the committee on or before August
- 2.7.3.5. The members of the committee shall:
 - 2.7.3.5.1. meet on a regular basis, as determined by the membership;
 - 2.7.3.5.2. select officers; and
 - 2.7.3.5.3. comply with Utah's Open and Public Meeting Act.

2.7.4. Duties of the committee

- 2.7.4.1. Authorize the use of sex education instructional programs or maturation education programs previously approved by the USBE.
- 2.7.4.2. Review and adopt instructional materials that are medically accurate and comply with state law.
 - 2.7.4.2.1. Instructional materials will be available for reasonable review opportunities to district families prior to consideration for adoption.
 - 2.7.4.2.2. Instructional materials must be approved in a public meeting by a majority vote of the board members present.
- 2.7.4.3. Review and approve all instructional materials, speakers, special programs, and resource agencies used in any sex education presentation.
 - 2.7.4.3.1. The committee must review and approve all guest speakers and guest presenters and their respective materials relating to sex education instruction to ensure



that the information sought to be presented is medically accurate and complies with state law.

- 2.7.4.3.2. Committee approval must be given prior to any presentation being made in the classroom.
 - 2.7.4.4. Review of prior approvals
 - 2.7.4.4.1. Instructional materials will be reviewed every two (2) years from the initial date of approval to check for medical accuracy and compliance with state law.
 - 2.7.4.4.2. Speakers, special programs, and resource agencies will verify in writing at the beginning of each school year that there have been no changes to their previously-approved presentations.
 - 2.7.4.4.3. Any changes must be reviewed and approved by the committee prior to their presentations
 - 2.7.4.5. Hear appeals, complaints, or other special matters pertaining to existing sex education programs and/or instruction that have not been resolved at the school level.
 - 2.7.4.6. Submit an annual written report to the board by May 31 of each year which summarizes the work performed by the committee and any complaints or concerns that were received by the district related to the district's sex education instruction or instructional programs.
 - 2.7.4.7. Update annually the Approved Materials List which may be publicly accessed through the health curriculum page on the district's website.
- 2.7.5. Training
- 2.7.5.1. All newly hired or newly assigned educators with responsibility for any aspect of sex education instruction will attend professional development outlining the sex education curriculum and the criteria for sex education instruction in any course offered in the public education system.
 - 2.7.5.2. Spectrum Academy will hold a training every two (2) years for all educators who have responsibility for any aspect of sex education instruction.
- 2.7.6. Board Review of Data
- 2.7.6.1. In conjunction with the board's scheduled review, the executive director of academics will present data to the board for its review. The information presented will include:
 - 2.7.6.1.1. County data for the county the school resides in on:
 - 2.7.6.1.1.1. teen pregnancy;
 - 2.7.6.1.1.2. child sexual abuse;
 - 2.7.6.1.1.3. sexually transmitted diseases and sexually transmitted infections; and
 - 2.7.6.1.1.4. the number of pornography complaints that Spectrum Academy has received.



DEFINITIONS

Parent: The parent or legal guardian of a student.

Parent/Guardian Consent Form – Sex Education Instruction: The [form](#) developed by the Utah State Board of Education which must be used by district schools for parental notification of sex education instruction, maturation programs, and sex education instructional programs.

Refusal Skills: Instruction in: a student’s ability to clearly and expressly refuse sexual advances by a minor or adult; a student’s obligation to stop the student’s sexual advances if refused by another individual; a student’s right to report and seek counseling for unwanted sexual advances; sexual harassment; and the fact that a student may not consent to criminally prohibited activities or activities for which the student is legally prohibited from giving consent, including the electronic transmission of sexually explicit images by an individual of the individual or another person.

Sex Education Instruction or Instructional Programs: Any course, unit, class, activity, or presentation that, as a focus of discussion, provides instruction or information to students about sexual abstinence, human sexuality, human reproduction, reproductive anatomy, physiology, pregnancy, marriage, childbirth, parenthood, contraception, sexual abuse, sexual assault, rape, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, or refusal skills.

REFERENCES

[Board Rule R277- 474](#) School Instruction and Human Sexuality

RELEVANT LINKS

DOCUMENT HISTORY

Adopted: 05/20/2020

Revised: 11/16/2022- No substantive changes