

INSTRUCTION

Sexual Health Education, Including Reproductive Health and Family Planning

Okemos Public Schools shall have an abstinence based, comprehensive reproductive health and human sexuality program that is age/developmentally appropriate for students and based on sound science and proven principles of instruction. The program shall be tailored to meet the particular needs of Okemos students, parents/guardians and community. The curricula will be regularly-updated, designed and delivered to prepare individuals for a lifetime of responsible and informed choices regarding their sexual health and interpersonal behaviors. All Sexual Health Education instruction shall be conducted by trained educators.

The district's sexual health education program shall be overseen by a Personal Health and Sex Education Advisory Board and a supervisor of reproductive health. Advisory board members shall be appointed by the board of education on recommendation of the superintendent of schools. The supervisor of reproductive health shall be employed by the board of education on recommendation of the superintendent of schools and shall serve as a non-voting member of the advisory board.

The superintendent shall establish regulations and procedures, including guidelines for classroom observation, consistent with state and federal laws.

Legal References:

Public Act 165/166 of 2004

MCL 380.169,1506,1507,1507a,1507b,1766, 1766a

See Also:

Okemos Sexual Health Education Handbook

POLICY

Adopted: 04-11-83

Amended: 10-12-15

Reviewed:

Sexual Health Education - Regulations

I. Classroom Observation Guidelines

In accordance with Public Acts 165 and 166 of 2004 and the School Code of the State of Michigan, parents or legal guardians have the right to observe sexual health education, including HIV/AIDS instruction, in their child's classroom. The following guidelines are to assist the observer in understanding the process and his/her obligation while in the classroom. Because of the sensitivity of these topics for children, these guidelines must be followed:

1. All requests for observation must be submitted to the building principal at least three (3) school days in advance of the observation date(s).
2. On the day(s) of observation(s), the parent or legal guardian must report to the principal's office prior to the scheduled observation and inform building office personnel that they are in the building to observe.
3. A copy of these guidelines shall be signed by observers as an indication that they have read and understand each item.
4. Persons requesting observation are encouraged to meet with the building principal before and after the observation to review the process, to have an opportunity to ask questions, and to provide comments about the observation process.
5. Observers in the classroom must not participate in the instructional program.
6. Observers are asked to be as inconspicuous as possible. Classroom teachers will determine seating arrangements for observers in the classroom. The observer should remain seated throughout the instruction.
7. It is essential and expected that individual student activities and anything said by an individual student be kept confidential by the observer.
8. Observers may not use technology devices of any kind to record classroom activities.
9. A parent or legal guardian may observe instruction in his/her child's class. The parent or legal guardian may not observe the class if his/her child has been removed from instruction.
10. Parents or legal guardians are encouraged to discuss their observation plans with their child prior to the observation(s).

II. Personal Health And Sex Education Advisory Board

The district's sexual health education program is overseen by a Personal Health and Sex Education Advisory Board and a supervisor of reproductive health as appointed by the board of education.

- A. The Okemos Personal Health and Sex Education Advisory Board (PHASE) is charged with the following responsibilities:
1. Establish program goals and objectives for pupil knowledge and skills.
 2. Review and recommend instructional materials and methods, guest speakers, and programs which are a part of the comprehensive sexual health program.
 3. Evaluate, measure, and report the attainment of program goals and objectives and make the resulting report available to parents/guardians in the district every two years.
 4. Work closely with the school administration in the implementation of this program.
 5. Review this policy and/or State guidelines and make recommendations to the board of education for needed changes.
 6. Perform other duties as suggested by the supervisor of reproductive health, board of education, or the superintendent of schools or designee

The final determination regarding any reports or recommendations to the board of education will be by majority vote of PHASE board members present. A quorum consists of 51% of voting PHASE board members. Individual votes will be recorded in the PHASE board minutes. (The supervisor of reproductive health is a non-voting member of the advisory board.) Curricula that are used as part of HIV/AIDS or sex education instruction must go through the formal process, including two public hearings and school board approval.

- B. The Okemos Personal Health and Sex Education Advisory Board (PHASE) shall be established as follows:
1. The PHASE board shall consist of the supervisor of reproductive health and no more than 20 members. The supervisor of reproductive health is a non-voting member of the PHASE board. A president and vice president shall be selected by the PHASE board, at least one of who is a parent/guardian of a child attending a school operated by the school district. The vice president is expected to assume the duties in the absence of the president. Membership will include:

- ❑ Parents/guardians (half of the membership) who have a child attending a school operated by the school district; a majority of these parent/guardian members must not be employed by the school district.
- ❑ clergy;
- ❑ health professionals;
- ❑ at least two (2) students from the junior or senior class at Okemos High School, to be selected by the high school principal;
- ❑ at least three (3) educators (e.g., administrators, teachers, professional staff).

A reasonable effort shall be made to ensure that the PHASE board consists of members representing a cross-section of community viewpoints.

2. Parent/guardian, clergy, and health professionals are appointed for a three (3) year term effective at the beginning of the next school year. Vacancies occurring during the year will remain vacant until new appointments are made at the beginning of the school year. There is no restriction on the number of terms an individual may serve on the advisory board.
3. The supervisor of reproductive health will solicit and recommend to the superintendent of schools or designee, individuals for the educator and student positions on the PHASE board. Individuals from the community desiring membership on the PHASE board must complete and submit the application form to the supervisor of reproductive health by the published due date. The information forms are given to the subcommittee of the district's Parent Council, who review and recommend individuals in accordance with positions available on the PHASE board (and in accordance with maintaining a cross-section of community viewpoints). The supervisor of reproductive health then submits the names of recommended individuals to the superintendent of schools or designee.
4. Members of the PHASE board are appointed by the board of education following recommendations by the superintendent or designee.

Regulations: 10-12-15