

TEACHING HUMAN SEXUALITY

Background

The Division believes knowledge and understanding of human sexuality is an essential component of public education and good health. The Division further believes that the public education system has a responsibility to assist parents in educating children about sexuality and that this partnership may blend curriculum outcomes with family values and cultural expectations.

Procedures

1. All Division schools are required to incorporate Human Sexuality instruction into the Health and Life Skills program at age and grade appropriate levels as prescribed by the Alberta Program of Studies.
2. Teachers shall provide advance notice to a parent or guardian of a student when the planned course of study and instructional materials includes subject matter that deals primarily and explicitly with human sexuality.
3. Parents shall be advised prior to the start of Human Sexuality instruction of their right to exempt their child.
4. Resources utilized shall be selected with careful regard for the sensitivity of the topic.
5. Teachers shall create a course outline and provide a copy to the school principal prior to the commencement of instruction.
6. Schools will provide alternative learning experiences for students exempted from Human Sexuality education.

Reference:

Section 39, 60, School Act
Alberta Program of Studies, Health and Life Skills, Career and Life Management
Alberta Guide to Education 2010, pp. 16, 71-73
Alberta Human Rights Act, RSA 2000, Chapter A-25.5

Approved September, 2010