

Abstinence-Plus Sex Education

The board of trustees of the Jackson Public School District believes that every student has the right to accurate information concerning the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. The board is committed to fostering community partnerships that educate both students and parents about this important topic.

The Jackson Public School District seeks to affirm its commitment to creating healthy and responsible teens in the district by fully complying with the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, Section 37-13-171, and by:

- Adopting educational programs designed to help students and parents take action to reduce rates of teen births and sexually transmitted infections and integrating such programs into already established classes, and
- Establishing principles, guidelines, and strategies for implementing effective sex education programs, referred to in state law as “Abstinence-Plus” education programs.

The district shall utilize a comprehensive, age-appropriate, evidenced based, medically accurate, and free of fear and shame based strategies Abstinence-Plus curriculum from the list of curricula approved

5. Prohibits instruction and demonstrations on the application and use of condoms; and
6. Requires the district's designee to carry out the functions of those strategies to promote consistency in the administration of the program developed by the Mississippi Department of Health.

Definition

Abstinence-Plus education is a grade and age appropriate school curriculum that includes every component of the following, plus any other programmatic or instructional components approved

notice thereof to the parents of children in such programs of instruction. The written notice must inform the parents of their right to request the inclusion of their child for such instruction or presentation. The notice must also inform the parents of the right, and the appropriate process, to review the curriculum and all materials to be used in the lesson or presentation. Upon the request of any parent, the school shall excuse the parent's child from such instruction or presentation, without detriment to the student.

Procedures

The superintendent, or his/her designee, shall establish procedures to support this policy. The superintendent will provide the board with an annual report on the outcomes of the Abstinence-Plus education program. If funding is available, this report shall include quantitative as well as qualitative analysis of the program and shall include the perspective of students, teachers, and parents/guardians.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed on an on-going basis in accordance with the Board's policy review process. This policy shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Annotated, including but not limited to code sections 37-13-171, 37-13-173, 37-13-175, as amended and with all other applicable federal and state laws.

No Child Left Behind Requirement

No Child Left Behind prohibits the use of funds authorized under this Act to be used to:

1. Develop or distribute material, or operate programs or courses of instruction directed at youth, that are designed to promote or encourage sexual activity, whether homosexual or heterosexual,
2. Provide sex education or HIV-prevention education in schools unless that instruction is age appropriate and includes the health benefits of abstinence, and
3. Operate a program of contraceptive distribution in schools.

Legal Ref: Miss. Code Ann. Sections 37-13-171, 37-13-173, 37-13-175

DATE: June 26, 2012

REVIEWED: December 6, 2016