



Family Life Education

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| Policy Number: 4.213 | Monitoring Review: Annually |
| Effective/Revised Date: June 28, 2023 | Signature: |
| Approved by: Lizzette Gonzalez Reynolds, Commissioner | |

General

A family life education program shall be implemented within the Achievement School District in compliance with state law.¹ A parent/guardian who chooses not to have a student participate in the family life education program shall submit such request in writing to the principal. A student who is excused from the program shall be assigned alternative health activities and shall not be penalized academically.

Not less than thirty (30) days prior to commencing instruction of the family life curriculum, each LEA shall notify parents or legal guardians of students whom the LEA anticipates will be present for instruction in sex education that:

- (1) The LEA is using a family life curriculum that meets the requirements of state law; and
- (2) The parent or legal guardian shall have the right to examine the grade level instructional materials and confer with the student's instructor, school counselor or principal, as designated by the LEA, regarding any or all portions of family life.

FAMILY LIFE INSTRUCTION

The curriculum for the family life education program shall, in a manner that is age-appropriate and factually and medically accurate, include the following:²

1. Teach the skills needed to make healthy decisions in all aspects of marriage and family life;
2. Encourage sexual health by helping students understand how the whole person is affected by sexual activity as well as other risk behaviors;
3. Provide information about human reproduction, including conception, birth, and prenatal care, as well as the process of adoption and its benefits;
4. Provide information on the family unit and the responsibilities and consequences related to sexual activity, including the challenges of single teen parenting;
5. Promote only sexual risk avoidance through abstinence and the positive results of avoiding sexual activity;
6. Provide instruction on the detection, intervention, prevention, and treatment of child sexual abuse, including such abuse that may occur in the home, and human trafficking in which a victim is the child;

¹ Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-1302

² Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-1304

7. Provide instruction on the prevention of dating violence;
8. Encourage communication between parent(s)/guardian(s) and students; and
9. Address the legal aspects of sexual activity with emphasis on the rights of the student.

The family life education program shall be reviewed annually to ensure that the prohibited items of instruction, as provided for in state law,³ are not included in the curriculum.

A parent or guardian who wishes to excuse a student from any portion of family life shall submit a request, in writing, to the student's instructor, school counselor, or principal. A parent or guardian who wishes to excuse a student from all portions of family life shall submit a request in writing to the student's principal. A student who is excused from any or all portions of family life shall not be penalized for grading purposes if the student satisfactorily performs alternative health lessons.³

TRAINING ON INSTRUCTION

Personnel providing family life instruction shall receive training prior to presenting such instruction. Personnel shall conduct such instruction with maturity and discretion.

³ Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-1304(b)