

Board Policy – Comprehensive Sexual Health and HIV / AIDS Prevention Instruction Board Policy 6142.1

The Bridges Governing Board recognizes that the purpose of the school's sexual health and HIV/AIDS prevention instruction is to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to protect them from unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases and to encourage students to develop healthy attitudes concerning adolescent growth and development, body image, gender roles, sexual orientation, dating, marriage, and family. The Board therefore desires to provide a well-planned sequence of instruction on comprehensive sexual health and HIV/AIDS prevention.

Bridge's curriculum shall be aligned with the state's content standards, based on medically accurate and factual information, and designed to teach students to make healthy choices and reduce high-risk behaviors. Bridge's program shall comply with the requirements of law and Board policy, and shall respect the rights of parents/guardians to supervise their children's education on these subjects and to impart values regarding human sexuality to their children.

The Bridges Governing Board also believes that health education should foster the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that students need in order to lead healthy lives and avoid high-risk behaviors. Bridge's health education program shall be part of a coordinated school health system which supports the well-being of students and is linked to district and community services and resources.

Goals for the district's health education program shall be designed to promote student wellness and shall include, but not be limited to, goals for nutrition education and physical activity.

The Director or designee shall provide periodic reports to the Board regarding the implementation and effectiveness of the school's health education program which may include, but not be limited to, a description of the school's program and the extent to which it is aligned with the state's content standards and curriculum framework, the amount of time allotted for health instruction at each grade level, and student achievement of district standards for health education.

Parent/Guardian Consent

A parent/guardian may request in writing that his/her child be excused from participating in HIV/AIDS prevention or sexual health education. Students so excused by their parents/guardians shall be given an alternative educational activity. (Education Code 51240, 51939)

A student shall not be subject to disciplinary action, academic penalty, or other sanction if the student's parent/guardian declines to permit the student to receive the instruction. (Education Code 51939)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

220 Prohibition of discrimination

8850.5 Family relationships and parenting education

48980 Notice at beginning of term

51202 Instruction in personal and public health and safety

51203 Instruction on alcohol, narcotics and dangerous drugs

51210 Areas of study

51210.8 Health education curriculum

51240 Excuse from instruction due to religious beliefs

51260-51269 Drug education

51513 Materials containing questions about beliefs or practices

51880-51881.5 Health education, legislative findings and intent

51890-51891 Comprehensive health education programs

51930-51939 Comprehensive Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Education Act