



Parents/Guardians of Bridges Charter 7th Graders,

The California Healthy Youth Act has five primary purposes:

- To provide pupils with the knowledge and skills necessary to protect their sexual and reproductive health from HIV and other sexually transmitted infections and from unintended pregnancy;
- To provide pupils with the knowledge and skills they need to develop healthy attitudes concerning adolescent growth and development, body image, gender, sexual orientation, relationships, marriage, and family;
- To promote understanding of sexuality as a normal part of human development;
- To ensure pupils receive integrated, comprehensive, accurate, and unbiased sexual health and HIV prevention instruction and provide educators with clear tools and guidance to accomplish that end;
- To provide pupils with the knowledge and skills necessary to have healthy, positive, and safe relationships and behaviors

This will serve as notification of your right to review any and all materials which will be utilized this year in instruction of comprehensive sexual health and HIV/AIDS prevention, as well as the content of any surveys of sexual behavior to be taken. You must submit a request in writing if you wish to exclude your child from participation in all or part of the comprehensive sexual health and HIV/AIDS prevention curriculum. Otherwise, the law provides that a child will receive the entire sexual health education curriculum and will be asked to participate in all surveys of sexual practices given by the school.

Further, AB 329 states that any child who is excluded from comprehensive sexual health education by parent/guardian request may not be subject to academic penalty, disciplinary action or other sanctions.

An alternative educational activity will be made available to a child whose parent/guardian has requested that their child not receive the instruction or participate in the test, questionnaire or surveys. That educational activity should implement the legislature's intent that instruction and materials provide pupils with the knowledge and skills for making healthy decisions including negotiation and refusal skills.

All instructional materials are available for review in the main office. You may also request a copy of the California Healthy Youth Act (California *Education Code* sections 51930–51939).

This instruction will be provided by **our teachers using *Positive Prevention Plus***.

If you **do not** want your student to participate in comprehensive sexual health or HIV prevention education, please provide a signed, written note to me or your child's teacher **by November 1, 2020**.

If you have any questions, please contact me or your student's teacher.

Sincerely,
Cindy McCarthy
Assistant Director