

Puyallup School District

Human Growth and Development, HIV/AIDS Curriculum Preview

Purpose: Parents or guardians of elementary students in grades four through six and of junior high students in grades seven through nine are invited to preview the school district’s approved sexual health and HIV/AIDS curriculum.

Laws and policies pertaining to HGD

HGD/Sexuality Curriculum is divided in to two categories:

HIV/AIDS Education

- Required annually by Washington state law starting no later than 5th grade (AIDS Omnibus Act)
- HIV/AIDS prevention education must:
 - Be approved for medical accuracy
 - Address the life-threatening dangers of HIV/AIDS, its transmission, and its prevention
 - Include behaviors that place a person at risk of contracting HIV and methods to avoid such risk

Everything Else

- The Healthy Youth Act (RCW: 28A.300.475) requires that when teaching sexual health education, schools must assure that the instruction:
 - Is medically and scientifically accurate.
 - Is age-appropriate.
 - Is appropriate for students regardless of gender, race, disability status, or sexual orientation.
 - Includes information about abstinence and other methods of preventing unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases

Can be taught 30 days following preview date

Many of our schools wait until later in the year

Check with your teacher regarding the timeline for this curriculum

Washington is one of the few states that allow parents to choose to have their students excluded from this curriculum.

Curriculum Adopted by the Puyallup SD

Where to find HGD Curriculum
www.Puyallup.k12.wa.us

In the main menu, select
Departments/Programs

Click on Health & Fitness

The screenshot shows a website interface with a blue sidebar menu on the left and a main content area on the right. The sidebar menu includes the following items: 'Health & Fitness' (highlighted in orange), '4 - 6 Elementary Sexuality Curriculum Content', '7 - 8 Grade Sexuality Curriculum Content', '9th Grade Sexuality & HIV-AIDS Curriculum', 'High School Sexuality Curriculum Content', 'Beliefs', and 'Sexual Health Education, HIV/AIDS opt out form'. The main content area is titled 'Health & Fitness' and contains the following text: 'Health and Physical Education teaches our students that good health and safety principles can lead to a lifetime of healthy practices -- resulting in more productive, active, and successful lives. According to a recent study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* people maintaining high levels of physical fitness and sound health practices are at lower risk of health related illnesses and impairments. Learning Standards The Health and Physical Education Standards and

KNOW Curriculum that teaches about HIV/AIDS was developed by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Department of Health. KNOW is a statewide curriculum that was adopted by the Puyallup SD.

FLASH Curriculum (Family Life and Sexual Health) – info on the Everything Else comes from the FLASH curriculum.

Redactions

While adopting and reviewing these curriculum programs, the PSD has chosen that certain sections will not be taught in our courses. Redactions can be found on the PSD website along with the curriculum.

Teacher Responses

Teachers in the Puyallup SD are instructed to follow the curriculum, and to answer questions from a medical, biological, physiological standpoint, not from a philosophical standpoint.

When questions or topics come up in class that are not part of the curriculum or are not age appropriate, teachers are instructed to give something similar to this response:

Since families have different opinions on this topic, we ask that you go home and find out what your family believes.

Choosing to opt out of the curriculum

Parents can choose to exclude their student from all of the HGD or HIV/AIDS curriculum, or even parts of that curriculum.

After viewing the curriculum, parent can complete the opt-out and return it to their child's school. Send a copy to Sparks Stadium as well, which will create another contact from our office to the school.

During sexuality lessons, students who have opted-out of the curriculum should be discretely pulled out of class during those times. Each school has a different plan for working with these students. Human Growth and Development lessons are not graded, so the student is not losing out on the grade.

Parents are encouraged to contact the teacher about this if they have questions.

Contact Information

Health and Fitness office is located at Sparks Stadium

253-841-8785