

**Douglas County School District**  
Family Life Sex Education/Aids Committee Meeting  
**Administrative Services Building**  
Minden, Nevada  
Monday, December 1, 2014  
3:30 p.m.

*Minutes Approved*  
*March 2, 2015*

## **MINUTES**

Present:

**Committee Members:**

Brandon Swain, Director of Education Services; Area 4  
Roger Cramer, Teacher/Professional Development Trainer  
Jennifer Tyndall, Chief Nurse Douglas County School District  
Sherry Martin, Counselor – Douglas High School

Absent:

Nancy Cauley, Principal – Zepyr Cove Elementary  
Adrienne Weintz, Parent  
Mary Garcia, Counselor – Minden Elementary School  
Pat Struggess, Nurse Jacks Valley Elementary School  
Carrie McGill, Teacher – Carson Valley Middle School

### **Call to Order**

Mr. Swain called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Mr. Swain reviewed the reason for the Family Life Sex Education/AIDS Committee. This committee is created under NRS to ensure that there is input and support from the community on the Family Life and Sex Education curriculum. The Douglas County School Board has created this committee so that input can be generated, new curriculum can be reviewed, and to ensure the curriculum that is in place is germane to current developments in health and related topics.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Swain called for Public Comment.

Ms. Cauhape, Carson City Health and Human Services, inquired as to whether the barrier methods that are referenced in the Scope and Sequence, specifically condoms and Nonoxynol-9, are still being taught in eleventh grade as a prevention method for AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

It was stated that condoms, birth control, and pregnancy prevention is reviewed with the students. Nonoxynol-9 is never discussed. Condoms are not given out at the high school, but students are taught that these are a preventative measures from sexually transmitted diseases.

Ms. Cauhape also inquired as to whether students are being taught, as indicated in the Scope and Sequence, about AIDS being fatal.

It was stated that students are not taught that AIDS is fatal, specifically, but that there is a potential at the end of a life stage after contracting this disease that AIDS may contribute to declining health leading to premature death.

Mr. Swain called for introductions of the committee members.

## **Update On Family Preview Nights and New 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Materials**

Parent Preview Nights are coming up. The first preview night is tomorrow, Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at Scarselli Elementary School. There will be a room set-up for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade preview and another room for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade preview. This is an opportunity for parents to review the curriculum in order to decide whether they would like their child to participate in Family Life Sex Education.

It was stated that the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum was reviewed last year. While reviewing materials this year, if it is decided that changes need to be made, this can be discussed. Various websites will be reviewed in search of new updated materials for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade, then for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade at the March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting and finally for 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the spring, at the May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Any changes or recommendations need to be brought before the School Board for their approval at the June 15<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

Changes made to the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum last year were:

- 5<sup>th</sup> grade - an objective was added about awareness on the use of digital technology in terms of relationship and understanding the risky forms of self-disclosure and their possible consequences. An on-line safety piece was added in order to teach students how to be more aware of their using the internet.
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade - a definition for sexting was added and enhanced positive relationships by identifying strategies for avoiding sexting.

Discussion ensued regarding the teaching of the lifetime responsibility to parenting so much later than everything else in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. At the elementary level, students are taught about the anatomy, informational vocabulary, and using correct terminology, as well as some developmental conception and birth. Relationship responsibilities are discussed at middle and high school levels. The committee can most certainly look at this again, if it meets the guidelines that are put forth by the School Board.

## **Review of possible FLSEA Materials**

Materials currently being used at the middle school level are outdated. It was noted that the same material has been taught for the past seventeen years. A list of websites will be given to the committee in order to review various materials with the opportunity to bring feedback to the March meeting for discussion. Some topics that may be looked at are STDs, abstinence, puberty, birth control, and cyberbullying. During review of the materials, the committee must ensure that they fall within the guidelines of the curriculum.

An inquiry was made as to the time allowances for teaching by grade:

- 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade - 1 ½ per session and there are 3 sessions. Some videos are included. Total of 3 ½ to 4 hrs.
- 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade - two weeks at 45 minutes a period.
- 9<sup>th</sup> grade - two to three weeks at 50 minutes a period. 11<sup>th</sup> grade takes about 1 hr. 40min. This is a pull-out for one day from their history class.

Discussion ensued as to whether the LGBTQ community is being addressed in the curriculum. Homosexuality and abortion are defined in the curriculum. The school environment is a reflection of the community. Accurate information must be provided in order for students to make good decisions. The scope of that information and how far and how deep we can go into certain topics is something that the community may have input on and that is why these forums are in place for the people to provide input.

Discussion ensued regarding contraceptives. Specifically, the teaching in 7<sup>th</sup> grade on introduction to various types of contraceptives and then the introduction in 9<sup>th</sup> grade to the understanding of the health risk, misinformation and proper methods of use regarding contraception's. The contraceptive box is used to review all the different contraceptive measures and the explanation of what they are and the facts that are available. If more questions arise, students have an opportunity to ask them through a questions box and these questions are directed to the school nurse where the student can obtain factual information. Teachers must stay in alignment with the curriculum and try neither to marginalize a question nor validate a question.

Statistics were reviewed on how many students are actively engaging in sexual intercourse. Based on the CDC, in the state of Nevada, 44% of high school students have had intercourse. 5% have had it before the age of 13; 14% have had it with 4 or more persons; 16% did not use any form of preventative for pregnancy during intercourse. 19% were never taught in school about AIDS or HIV infections.

Ms. Demuth, Division of Public and Behavioral Health, shared that the department manages flow through grants and that one of their sub grantees is Carson City Health and Human Services. They have an abstinence only curriculum for ages 9 and 12 and 13, 15 and a comprehensive curriculum for ages 13 to 18. In 2015, the abstinence only education grant program will have an overage of \$15,000 which will need to be used or it will be lost. It may be possible to support buying curriculum, but it will have to be federally mandated curriculum. This is curriculum for 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

The biggest need right now is in the middle school. The current curriculum will be sent out to the committee for review prior to the March meeting.

**Future Agenda Items:**

- Take a look at middle school curriculum (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>).
- New curriculum that we may want to consider. Ms. Demuth will bring her curriculum to review.
- Other statistical information that might be appropriate.
- Passive permission information.

**Adjournment:**  
**(For Possible Action)**

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by,  
Margaret Guzman, Administrative Secretary  
Douglas County School District  
Education Services; Area 4