

**DEFINITION**

Sex education/AIDS education - a planned program that shall include instruction relating to the handling of peer pressure, promotion of high self-esteem, local community values, and abstinence from sexual activity as an effective method of preventing acquired immune deficiency syndrome and the only sure method of preventing pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. This instruction shall emphasize abstinence from sexual activity until marriage and fidelity in marriage as important personal goals.

**REQUIREMENTS**

1. The Board of Education shall cause to be developed and implemented an accurate, comprehensive health and physical education program that shall include information and concepts specified in Georgia Board of Education Rule 160-4-2-.12, to the extent not waived in the school system's flexibility contract.
2. The Superintendent and administrative staff have the responsibility to develop procedures to allow parents and legal guardians to exercise the option of excluding their child from sex education and AIDS prevention instructional programs. Such procedures shall implement the following requirements.
  - a. Sex education and AIDS prevention instruction shall be part of a comprehensive health program.
  - b. Sex education shall include annual age-appropriate sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention education in kindergarten through grade 9.
  - c. Prior to the parent's or legal guardian's making a choice to allow his or her child or ward to take the specified unit of instruction, he or she shall be told what instruction is to be provided and have the opportunity to review all instructional materials to be used, print and nonprint. Any parent or legal guardian of a child to whom a course of study in sex education is to be taught shall have the right to elect, in writing, that such child does not receive such course of study.
  - d. A committee shall be established to review periodically sex education/AIDS prevention instructional materials and make recommendations concerning age/grade level use. Recommendations made by the committee shall be approved by the Board of Education before implementation.

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**Policy Reference Disclaimer:** These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

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**Note:** The State of Georgia has moved the Georgia Code. This new environment no longer allows us to link directly to the Georgia Code. For example enter 20-02-0211 in the search window and the Georgia Code will appear.

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