



Pacifica School District

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Preparing Students for an Evolving World

www.pacificasd.org

MEMORANDUM

Office of the Superintendent

Meeting of February 3, 2016

TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: Wendy S. Tukloff, Ed.D., Superintendent
SUBJECT: Sexual Health Education Curriculum Adoption

Background

Beginning January 1, 2016, new laws go into effect that changes Comprehensive Sexual Health Education and HIV/AIDS Prevention Education. The California Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Act, California Education Code (EC) sections 51930-51939, has two primary purposes:

1. To provide a pupil with the knowledge and skills to protect his or her sexual and reproductive health from unintended pregnancy and STDs (sexually transmitted diseases);
2. To encourage pupil to develop healthy attitudes concerning adolescent growth and development, body image, gender roles, sexual orientation, dating, marriage, and family.

In review of the current Pacifica School District Sexual Health Education Curriculum, our instructional materials are no longer compliant for grade 7. Therefore, we have reached out to Health Connected a non-profit corporation who serves students and families through its sexual health education programs in the San Francisco Bay Area and offers its curricula and training to educators throughout the country. Health Connected's mission is to help young people feel confident and supported to make informed decisions about their own sexual health.

The two California Education Code compliant and California Health Content Standards for Growth, Development and Sexual Health aligned health education curricula of interest to Pacifica School District are:

- ★ **Teen Talk** a middle and high school curriculum (PSD is interested in the middle school component) that addresses reproductive anatomy, pregnancy, contraceptive methods and abstinence, types of sexually transmitted diseases and how to prevent transmission, decision-making, identifying healthy and abusive relationships, talking to parent/trusted adult, and avoiding sexual coercion. Teen Talk educates youth about the importance of sexual health education through in-school lessons.
- ★ **Puberty Talk**, a curriculum for Grades 5 and 6 (PSD will provide the instruction to grade 5) that addresses changes during puberty, reproductive anatomy, pregnancy, decision-making, person boundaries, and communication with parents/trusted adults.

Seva Steel is to be commended for taking the lead on this process. We thank her for all her work in organizing the process:

1. Committee meeting with Health Connected
2. Administrator input at leadership and curriculum meetings
3. Teacher input
4. Parent input

We have received positive responses regarding the curriculum and implementation design.

Based on the feedback provided, the implementation design will be:

Grade 5: Curriculum review on the current sexual health education materials and the Health Connected Puberty Talk to determine the curriculum to be used for 2016-17. Should Puberty Talk be selected, we would also look at the model of the Health Connected Educator Staff providing five, one hour in-classroom sessions with the support of the teacher (See attached sample service agreement). The Trustees will be informed on the progress of this review.

Grade 7(and Grade 8 for 2015-16 only*): Health Teacher led instruction; Training by Health Connected Trainer

Grade 7 Parent Information Session

The total cost for this program is \$1,600.

Seva Steel will be present in the audience to assist with addressing questions/comments.

*Grade 8 is to be included this year as they have not had the opportunity to receive this program.