EAST LANSING PUBLIC SCHOOLS SEXUAL HEALTH AND HIV/AIDS EDUCATION OVERVIEW

Provided by: East Lansing Public Schools Sex Education Advisory Board

Mission of Sex Education Advisory Board

The mission of the East Lansing Public Schools Sex Education Advisory Board is to provide effective, age-appropriate sexuality education that teaches respect for self and others, safety, and healthy life-skills in partnership with family and community.

Michigan State Law Requirements for Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Education

In June of 2004, the Michigan State Legislators passed Public Acts 165 and 166 which modified Michigan laws related to sex education in public schools. Public Acts 165 and 166 outline the planning, training, and implementation mandates for HIV/AIDS and sex education (PA 165 of 2004) and a parent compliant process (PA 166 of 2004).
These acts stipulate the make-up of each district's Sex Education Advisory Board as well as their roles and responsibilities. The main role of the Sex Education Advisory Board is to:

- Define Sexual Health Education in accordance with Michigan Law;
- Establish program goals and objectives for pupil knowledge and skills that are likely to reduce the rates of sex, pregnancy, and sexually transmitted diseases;
- Select and recommend curricula, materials, and instructional delivery methods to the Board of Education for approval;
- Provide parents and community members with access to curricula and materials for review; and
- At least once every 2 years, evaluate, measure, and report the attainment of program goals and objectives established under subdivision (a). The board of a school district shall make the resulting report available to parents in the school district. §380.1507

Public Acts 165 and 166 also stipulate that school districts are required to teach about dangerous communicable diseases, including but not limited to, HIV/AIDS. §380.1169 HIV/AIDS must be offered at least once a year at every building level (elementary, middle/junior, senior high) and each person who teaches K-12 pupils about HIV/AIDS shall have training in HIV and AIDS education for young people. §380.1169[1]

Definition of Sexual Health Education

The East Lansing SEAB revised its working definition of sexual health education in May 2017 to reflect the life-long opportunities that students will gain through this education. Michigan Sex Education Law and research from the New York state Department of Health[2] were used in this revision.

Sexual health education is the process of equipping students with the knowledge and skills to:

- Form and maintain healthy relationships
- Talk effectively with peers, family, and partners
- Set appropriate boundaries
- Recognize risks and ways to reduce them
- Understand the risks, responsibilities, and consequences of sexual behavior
- Know the functions of the human reproductive system
- Know how to access and use health care services and information

[1] Michigan Department of Education Sample Two-Year Report Requirements, www.michigan.gov/mde HIV/STD and Sexuality Education Page (September 14, 2007)

[2] New York State Department of Health: **Guiding Principles for Sexual Health Education for Young People: A Guide for Community-Based Organizations**