Health, family life, and sex education, including information about parts of the body, reproduction and related topics, shall be included in the instructional program as appropriate to the grade level and course of study. The instructional approach shall be developed after consultation with parents and other community representatives. Parents may ask to review the materials to be used and may request that their child be excluded from sex education class sessions without prejudice. The Board believes that HIV/AIDS and other STD instruction is most effective when integrated into a comprehensive health education program. Instruction shall be developmentally appropriate to the grade level of the students and shall occur in a systematic manner. The Board particularly desires that students receive proper education about HIV and other STD’s before they reach the age when they may adopt behaviors which put them at risk of contracting the disease. In order for education about HIV and other STD’s to be most effective, the Superintendent shall require that faculty members who present this instruction receive continuing in-service training which includes appropriate teaching strategies and techniques. Other staff members not involved in direct instruction but who have contact with students shall receive basic information about HIV/ AIDS and other STD’s and instruction in the use of universal precautions when dealing with body fluids. In accordance with Board policy, parents shall have an opportunity to review the HIV/STD education program before it is presented to students.

Legal Reference:

§§ 50-16-1001, et seq., MCA AIDS Education and Prevention (AIDS Prevention Act)

Policy History:

Adopted on: January 14, 2003
Revisions recommended by MTSBA presented to PN&P Committee August 31, 2005
First Reading by Board of Trustees, September 13, 2005
Posted for Public Input until Tuesday, October 18, 2005
Second Reading at October 26, 2005 PN&P Committee meeting.
Adopted on: November 8, 2005