



Boulder Valley School District

File: IGAE

Adopted: June 13, 1991

Revised: August 27, 1992, May 26, 1994, June 24, 2003, April 13, 2010

Associated Exhibit: IGAE-E

HEALTH EDUCATION

The Board of Education believes that the goal of health education is to promote physical, intellectual, social, emotional and spiritual well being, not just to prevent disease. A healthy school is one where all students receive consistent messages reinforcing their personal worth, supporting individual and family differences, and emphasizing personal responsibility for health choices. Given the potential consequences of risky health behaviors on overall wellness and academic achievement, a comprehensive health education program is a necessary element of the academic curriculum. Not only is it important for children to know basic health facts, but it is of equal importance for them to build self-esteem, develop skills for evaluating underlying values and beliefs related to health, and to make responsible decisions. It is through the acquisition of knowledge and the development of decision making skills that young people become more fully equipped to lead a healthier life.

Boulder Valley School District's commitment to this goal reflects a belief in the shared responsibility for children's health among the family, the school, and the community. The role of the school should be to provide relevant, scientifically accurate information at all grade levels, promote awareness of one's personal beliefs and values, provide age-appropriate, experiential learning and nurture personal responsibility for one's health choices.

REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements listed below, the customary policies and regulations concerning the approval of new curriculum content, and materials shall apply to any health education instruction offered by the District:

1. The basic curriculum and materials to be used in the District's health program shall be available for inspection during school hours upon request by any member of the public. Periodically, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall direct that

curriculum and materials used in the district's health education program be available for public inspection and shall thereafter schedule a public forum to receive comments from the public concerning the basic curriculum and materials used in the health education program.

2. Parents/guardians of all students shall be notified in writing prior to student's involvement in a health education course of instruction. The notice to parents/guardians informs the parents that they may exclude their child from a specific portion or portions of the instruction on the grounds that it is contrary to the religious beliefs and teachings or closely held personal beliefs of the student or the student's parent or guardian. Students for whom parents/guardians have submitted a signed exemption form shall be excluded from involvement in those portions of the health curriculum specified by the parents/guardians. All exclusion records shall be maintained in student files.

3. Upon request, each school shall give parents/guardians an opportunity to review the materials to be used and participate in a conference with the instructor and principal in order to assist the parent/guardian in determining whether to request an exemption for the student from a specific portion of the planned instruction.

4. Teachers assigned to teach health shall have appropriate preparation including specific health education training. Professional development opportunities and incentives will be provided for all elementary, middle and high school health teachers to maintain and upgrade their knowledge and skills, including required training on the human growth and development/human sexuality curriculum.

5. Community-based speakers may be used to enhance the health education curriculum by presenting timely and appropriate information on topics being covered in the learning materials. Such speakers must be approved by the health education coordinator and will be listed in the health teachers' resource guide. The guide will be updated regularly. It shall be the responsibility of the health teacher to prepare the students for, and follow up on presentations by community-based speakers.

LEGAL REF.:

C.R.S. 22-25-106(4) and – 110(2)

CROSS REFS.:

IF sub-codes (all relate to curriculum development)

IGAG, Teaching About Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco

IGAI, Human Sexuality

IIAA, IIAB Learning Materials Selection and Adoption

IKF, Graduation Requirements

INI, Exemptions from Required Instruction

End of File: IGAE