Notice of Intent to Provide HIV and Human Reproduction Instruction

Dear Parent or Guardian of an IB Biology Student,

If your child is enrolled in a Plano Independent School District (PISD) high school IB Biology, the curriculum includes units on HIV and human reproduction. Both the PISD Board of Education and the district’s School Health Advisory Council endorse this Texas standards-based curriculum. The district’s School Health Advisory Council, comprised of parents, community, students and staff members, is appointed by the Plano Independent School District Board of Trustees and assists in ensuring that local community values are reflected in the District’s health education instruction. The School Health Advisory Council meets four times a year, and its meetings are open to the public.

Section 28.004 of the Texas Education Code requires that sexuality instruction in Texas schools “present abstinence as the preferred choice of behavior for unmarried and /or school age children” and “devote more attention to abstinence from sexual than to any other behavior.” The content for this instruction is provided by the state-adopted textbook, Campbell’s Biology, which is published by Benjamin Cummings. The content for IB instruction is provided by the PISD adopted Biology for the IB Diploma which is published by Hodder Education. The state of Texas adopted the above textbooks as being compliant with this law.

If you have questions, please contact the IB Biology teacher or Mrs. Karen Shepherd, the Coordinator of 6-12 Science.
IB Biology Teacher: Dusty Vincer at 469-752-5554 or Dusty.Vincer@pisd.edu
Karen Shepherd: 469-752-8163 or Karen.Shepherd@pisd.edu

The objectives and content have been reviewed and edited by the School Health Education Advisory Council, with final review and adoption by the Plano ISD Board of Trustees.

The unit objectives for HIV, reproduction, growth, and development are listed below.

1. Students will list the characteristics of viruses including HIV.
2. Describe the human immune system and relate it to viruses including HIV.
3. Recognize the methods of transmission of HIV, including infectious body fluids and HIV entry points.
4. Describe the opportunistic infections that occur due to HIV infection.
5. Discuss methods of testing, treatment, and prevention of the spread of HIV.
6. Analyze the most recent statistics on HIV demographics.
7. Identify the structures and functions of the male reproductive system.
8. Identify the structures and functions of the female reproductive system.
9. Explain the relationship between the endocrine and reproductive systems.
10. Identify factors that affect fertility.
11. Identify the cause and effects of sexually transmitted diseases.
12. Understand the effects of aging on the reproductive system.
13. Define fertilization and describe its significance.
14. Explain the process of fertilization.
15. Identify the uterine tubes as the site of fertilization.
17. Describe how labor is initiated and the three stages of labor.
18. Analyze environmental factors as they relate to birth defects.
19. Describe techniques used to detect prenatal disorders.
20. Investigate advances in stem cell research and reproductive technologies.
Plano Independent School District
Request to Withhold Child from IB Biology HIV and Human Reproduction Units

For your child to be excused from portions of instruction covering HIV and/or human reproduction, this form must be received by the teacher or Karen Shepherd three weeks prior to instruction.

I request that my child, _________________________, be excused from the following objectives: __________________ in the state-approved HIV and human reproduction units. I understand that my child will be expected to complete alternative assignments provided by his or her IB Biology teacher. My child attends _________________ school.

________________________
Date

________________________
Print Name

________________________
Signature
Send this form to the teacher.