Notice of Intent to Provide HIV and Reproductive Instruction

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As part of the Biology and Pre-AP Biology class that your son/daughter is currently taking, students will be studying concepts relating to microorganisms, disease, immunity, and reproduction. Within these units, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) information will be covered using the objectives listed below. 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, Prentice Hall Biology, which is published by Pearson/Prentice Hall Publishing. The state of Texas adopted the above textbook as being compliant with this law.

If you have question, please contact your student’s teacher or Mrs. Karen Shepherd, the Coordinator of 6-12 Science instruction.

Contact information:
Biology Teacher:
Karen Shepherd: 469-752-8163 or Karen.Shepherd@pisd.edu

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

The unit objectives for HIV and reproduction are listed below.

1. Discuss the hypothetical origins and spread of the AIDS virus.
2. Students will list the characteristics of viruses including HIV.
3. Describe the human immune system and relate it to viruses including HIV.
4. Recognize the methods of transmission of HIV, including infectious body fluids and HIV entry points.
5. Describe the opportunistic infections that occur due to HIV infection.
6. Discuss methods of testing, treatment, and prevention of the spread of HIV.
7. Analyze the most recent statistics on HIV demographics.
8. Describe the interactions that occur among the reproductive and endocrine systems.
9. Identify the cellular structure and function of the male and female reproductive gametes.
10. Define fertilization and describe its significance.

Plano Independent School District
Request to Withhold Child from the HIV/Reproduction Unit

For your child to be excused from the units of instruction on HIV and 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 reproductive units. I understand that my child will be expected to complete alternative assignments provided by his or her Biology teacher. My child attends _________________________school.

________________________________________
Date

________________________________________
Print Name

________________________________________
Signature

Send this form to the teacher

Reviewed by Plano ISD School Health Advisory Council Spring 1998, 2005