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# SIERRA SANDS

# **UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Michelle Savko, Ed.D.

Assistant Superintendent of

Curriculum and Instruction

**California Healthy Youth Act**

**Comprehensive Sexual Health Education and HIV Prevention Education**

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The California Healthy Youth Act requires that comprehensive sexual health education and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prevention education be taught to students at least once in middle school and once in high school, beginning no later than grade seven. Instruction and materials must be medically accurate, objective, age‐appropriate and inclusive of all students, as defined by law. The law requires that instruction and materials must encourage students to communicate with parents, guardians or other trusted adults about human sexuality.

The purpose of this instruction is to:

* Provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to protect their sexual and reproductive health from HIV and other sexually transmitted infections and from unintended pregnancy.
* Provide students with the knowledge and skills they need to develop healthy attitudes concerning adolescent growth and development, body image, gender, sexual orientation, relationships, marriage, and family.
* Promote understanding of sexuality as a normal part of human development.
* Ensure students receive integrated, comprehensive, accurate, and unbiased sexual health and HIV prevention instruction and provide educators with clear tools and guidance to accomplish that end.
* Provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to have healthy, positive, and safe relationships and behaviors.

In addition to the currently adopted Health curriculum, supplemental materials will be used to provide the required instruction outlined in the California Healthy Youth Act, *Positive Prevention Plus-Sexual Health Education for America’s Youth, Positive Prevention Plus*. All instructional materials are available for review in the main office. You may also request a copy of the California Healthy Youth Act (California *Education Code* sections 51930–51939).

This instruction will be provided by district health and/or science teacher(s). Per CA *Education Code* 51938(a), a parent or guardian of a pupil has the right to excuse their child from all or part of comprehensive sexual health education, HIV prevention education, and assessments related to that education through a passive consent (“opt-out”) process. If you **do not** want your student to participate in comprehensive sexual health or HIV prevention education, please complete the information below and return it to the student’s teacher and/or school office.

If you have any questions, please contact your student’s teacher or principal.

Sincerely,

Michelle Savko, Ed.D.

# SIERRA SANDS

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**California Healthy Youth Act**

**Comprehensive Sexual Health Education and HIV Prevention Education**

I have read the California Healthy Youth Act comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education notification letter and I do NOT want my student to participate in comprehensive sexual health or HIV prevention education.

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Student Name (Please Print)

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Parent/Guardian Signature Date