

## AIDS INSTRUCTION

The district will provide age appropriate classroom instruction in compliance with commissioner's regulations, for all students K-12 concerning Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). Instruction will be provided as part of the sequential and comprehensive health program and shall include the following information:

1. the nature of the disease;
2. methods of transmission of the disease; and
3. methods of prevention of the disease stressing abstinence as the most effective and appropriate protection against AIDS.

A student shall be excused from that segment of AIDS instruction regarding methods of prevention of the disease if his/her parent/guardian files a request with the Building Principal. The request must give assurance that such instruction will be given at home.

The Board of Education shall be responsible for determining the content of the district's AIDS curriculum, approving its implementation and evaluating the AIDS instructional program. In addition, the Board will ensure appropriate training and curriculum materials are provided for the instructional staff providing AIDS instruction and to parents who request such materials.

If the Board deems it necessary to update the AIDS instructional program, the Board shall request the Superintendent of Schools establish an advisory council which shall be responsible for making recommendations on updating the content, implementation, and evaluation of the AIDS instructional program. The advisory council must consist of Board members, appropriate school personnel, parents and community representatives, including representatives from religious organizations.

Ref: Education Law §3204(5)  
8 NYCRR §135.3 (Health Education incl. AIDS instruction)  
*Ware v. Valley Stream High School District*, 75 NY2d 114 (1989)  
*New York State School Boards Association v. Sobol*, 168 AD2d 188 (1991)  
*Matter of Knowledge*, 32 EDR 451 (1993) (function of advisory councils)

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