

## **HUMAN SEXUALITY**

### **Background**

Alberta Education has mandated the offering of the Theme V "Human Sexuality" components of the elementary, junior high and CALM 20 programs. The following procedures shall apply.

### **Procedures**

1. At least two (2) weeks before the first class is offered, parents/guardians of all children who are to receive the instruction shall be sent information regarding:
  - 1.1 The content of the course,
  - 1.2 What is to be taught,
  - 1.3 The name of the teacher,
  - 1.4 The duration of the unit,
  - 1.5 The teaching and support materials to be used.
2. Parents/guardians shall be provided with the opportunity to preview all course resources and support materials in advance of instruction, where they request it of the Principal or teacher.
3. Parents/guardians shall have the opportunity to determine whether or not their children receive this information.
  - 3.1 Parents will be required to sign a Notice and Student Exemption Form (Form 205-1) indicating their wishes.
  - 3.2 This is to be returned to the Principal.
  - 3.3 Where a parental request is received, no instruction is to be given.
4. The Principal is charged with the responsibility of making appropriate supervised alternate arrangements for students who have opted out of the unit.
5. No student shall be penalized by means of a lower mark or grade as a result of opting out of the Human Sexuality unit.
6. The Division believes:
  - 6.1 That delivery of Theme V is best accomplished through the combined efforts of a teacher and medical/health unit personnel, or other trained professionals.
  - 6.2 That the basic tenet advocated in all discussions of human sexuality is that abstinence be advocated for all students, and that sexual activities be postponed until marriage.

7. In cooperation with appropriate agencies, the Division will provide in-service training for teachers preparing to instruct Theme V, on request.
8. No teacher who feels uncomfortable teaching a human sexuality unit shall be required to teach it.

Adopted/Revised: JUN 2016/NOV 2019

Reference: Sections 18, 32, 33, 52, 53, 58.1, 196, 197, 222 Education Act  
Alberta Bill of Rights  
Alberta Human Rights Act  
Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Constitution Act, 1982  
Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Amendment Act  
Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12