



Murrieta Valley Unified School District

Middle School Health Education Parent/Guardian Letter

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This letter is to inform parents/guardians of the requirements outlined in California Education Code 51930-51939 (California Healthy Youth Act) regarding sexual health education and HIV prevention education. In alignment with Board Policy 6142.1, the District shall comply with the requirements of the law. As a parent/guardian, you have the right to excuse your student from all or part of the comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education by submitting your request in writing to the District, as explained below.

The middle school health education topics address the State of California requirements in sexual health education and HIV prevention and are included in the eighth-grade science curriculum and taught by the science teacher. All teachers have been trained to provide instruction in an unbiased, factual-based manner. The textbook and supplemental resources are available for preview. You may schedule a time to preview materials and/or obtain a copy of the California Health Youth Act by contacting the MVUSD Secondary Education office at (951) 696-1600 x 1018.

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 to encourage students to communicate with parents, guardians or other trusted adults about sexual health and human sexuality.

The purpose of this instruction, as delineated under Education Code section 51930, 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.

The health instruction includes the following topics:

- Healthy attitudes, behaviors and relationships
- HIV facts and prevention
- STI (Sexually Transmitted Infection) facts and prevention

As a parent/guardian, you may choose to not have your student participate in any or part of comprehensive sexual health or HIV prevention education. If you choose to do so, please provide a signed, written note to your school principal by **[DATE]**. The note should state that you are excusing your student from the instruction, and specify whether from all or a specific part of it, include the student's name, and be signed by the parent or guardian. The note does **not** need to provide a reason for the excusal.

Sincerely,

Mary Walters
Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Murrieta Valley Unified School District