

## 7.23 FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION

The Board of Education recognizes that the purpose of family life education is to help students acquire factual knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values which will result in behavior that contributes to the well-being of the individual, the family, and society. Among other things, family life education provides instruction directed toward enabling students to discuss effectively problems with family members. Such communication shall include the willingness and ability to listen, accept criticism, and respond orally with openness, frankness, and honesty, thus demonstrating a mutual respect and love for other members of the family.

Helping students attain a mature and responsible attitude toward human sexuality is a continuous task of every generation. Parents have the prime responsibility to assist their children in developing moral values. The schools should support and supplement parents' efforts in the areas of family life and sex education by offering students factual information and opportunities to discuss concerns, issues, and attitudes inherent in family life and sexual behavior, including traditional moral values. Instruction dealing with family life and sex education, including sexually transmitted disease, may be offered in several different courses.

- A. In courses where sexually transmitted diseases and human reproductive organs and their functions and processes are described, illustrated, or discussed, opportunity will be provided for all parents or guardians to request in writing that their children not attend. In such circumstances, an alternate educational assignment shall be arranged for the student.
- B. Instructional materials to be used in family life and sex education shall be available for inspection by the parent or guardian during school hours prior to the commencement of the instructional program.
- C. Teachers who provide instruction in family life and sex education will have professional preparation in the subject area, either at the pre-service or in-service level.