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Sexuality Education Parent Notification

April 25, 2025

Dear Parent or Guardian:

This semester, your child will receive sexuality education as part of Da Vinci's overall health education curriculum. California state law, the California Healthy Youth Act, requires that comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education be provided to students at least once in middle school or junior high school and once in high school, starting in grade 7.

Instruction must encourage students to communicate with parents, guardians or other trusted adults about human sexuality. Instruction must be medically accurate, age-appropriate and inclusive of all students. It must include the following:

- Information about HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including transmission, FDA approved methods to prevent HIV and STIs, and treatment
- Information that abstinence is the only certain way to prevent unintended pregnancy and HIV and other STIs, and information about value of delaying sexual activity
- Discussion about social views of HIV and AIDS
- Information about accessing resources for sexual and reproductive health care Information about pregnancy, including FDA approved prevention methods, pregnancy outcomes, prenatal care, and the newborn safe surrender law
- Information about sexual orientation and gender, including the harm of negative gender stereotypes
- Information about healthy relationships and avoiding unhealthy behaviors and situations

Da Vinci Schools acknowledge that parents/guardians are the primary sexuality educators for their child/children and we are committed to partnering with you to provide supplementary resources to support you in this role.

Health lessons will occur on Monday-Wednesday, May 12th-14th, 2025 in the 11th grade biology classes. Da Vinci Schools has adopted the Teen Talk curriculum which includes the below core components:

- Covers topics of sexual and reproductive anatomy, conception and fetal development, birth control, pregnancy options, STIs and HIV, gender and sexual orientation, media analysis, relationships, sexual crimes, consent, communication and decision-making
- Establishes a foundation for understanding sexual health and common language for communicating respectfully
- Helps students identify resources (e.g., parents/trusted adults, school personnel, healthcare providers)
- Encourages communication with parents/trusted adults, including an interview assignment
- Uses gender inclusive language

More info on the curriculum used can be found here: https://www.health-connected.org/

Parents/guardians have the option of excluding their child from sexuality education instruction. If you do not want your child to participate in comprehensive sexual health and HIV prevention education, please reach out to the administrator (Saya Wai, Assistant Principal, swai@davincischools.org). Students who are excused will be assigned study hall for the period. Questions can be directed to the Director of Health Services, Emily Green at egreen@davincischools.org.

Sincerely,

Emily Green, RN, SN, PhD Director of Health Services Egreen@davincischools.org