



# Grand Haven Area Public Schools

## Grand Haven Area Public Schools Reproductive Health Two Year Report on Achievement of Goals and Objectives January 2023

### Background Information

In June of 2004, the Michigan state legislators passed Public Acts 165 and 166 which modified Michigan laws related to sex education in public schools. Public Acts 165 and 166 outline the planning, training, and implementation mandates for HIV/AIDS and sex education (PA 165 of 2004) and a parent complaint process (PA 166 of 2004).

These acts stipulate the make-up of each district's Sex Education Advisory Board as well as their roles and responsibilities. Part of the role of the Sex Education Advisory Board is to:

- ◆ *Establish program goals and objectives for pupil knowledge and skills that are likely to reduce the rates of sex, pregnancy, and sexually transmitted diseases; and*
- ◆ *At least once every 2 years, evaluate, measure, and report the attainment of program goals and objectives established under subdivision (a). The board of a school district shall make the resulting report available to parents in the school district. §380.1507*

Public Acts 165 and 166 also stipulate that school districts are required to teach about dangerous communicable diseases, including but not limited to, HIV/AIDS. §380.1169 HIV/AIDS must be offered at least once a year at every building level (elementary, middle/junior, senior high) and each person who teaches K-12 pupils about HIV/AIDS shall have training in HIV and AIDS education for young people. §380.1169

### Approved Goals and Objectives

The Grand Haven Area Public Schools Sex Education Advisory Board has recommended and the GHAPS Board of Education has approved the following goals and objectives for the K-12 program of instruction in HIV/AIDS, reproductive health, and sex education. The goals and objectives are aligned with state laws, the State Board of Education *Policy to Promote Health and Prevent Disease and Pregnancy* (2003), and the *Grade Level Content Expectations* as well as the *Michigan Merit Curriculum Credit Guidelines for Health Education*, recently adopted by the Michigan Board of Education (2007).

### Goal:

To equip students with the knowledge and skills to develop healthy relationships and to avoid sexual behaviors that put them at risk for HIV, STDs, and unintended pregnancy, using an abstinence based curriculum.

### Objectives:

At the end of the K-12 HIV/STD and sex education program of instruction, students will be able to:

- Analyze characteristics of healthy and unhealthy relationships.
- Evaluate positive and negative influences on sexual decisions.
- Evaluate the possible emotional, physical, and legal consequences of early sexual activity.
- Advocate for abstinence as the only 100% effective way to avoid pregnancy, HIV and STDs.
- Accurately assess their risks for HIV, other STDs, and pregnancy.
- Demonstrate effective skills for avoiding or escaping risky sexual situations.
- Demonstrate effective skills to access and correctly use condoms and other risk reduction methods.
- Communicate with parents and other trusted adults regarding reproductive health, relationships, and sexual decisions.
- Seek additional information, support, and services as needed.

The Grand Haven Area Public Schools Sex Education Advisory Board has reviewed and recommended and the GHAPS Board of Education has approved the following curricula for implementation with students at each of the building levels.

### **5th Grade:**

Separately, boys and girls in fifth grade at White Pines Intermediate School watch the video [You, Your Body, and Puberty](#). *This program presents a gentle, curriculum-based introduction to puberty. The remarkable journey from child to adult is biological, physical and emotional. It is exciting and sometimes confusing to grow up. Viewers will learn what is "normal" for boys and girls at puberty: the biological facts of physical maturation; the timeline for growth for both sexes; the normal feelings of self-consciousness; the need for good personal hygiene; why mood swings happen; and, preparation of the body for human sexuality and reproduction. Research has unequivocally demonstrated that children who are well-prepared for puberty make the healthiest transitions to adulthood.* Teachers with certification to administer this lesson facilitate the video and answer questions. There is an opportunity for parents to watch the video in advance and parents can choose to opt out of this one-day lesson.

### **5th Grade Program Evaluation**

This program has refined, established processes that contribute to high engagement. There is good communication and participation in the pre-screening of the video for parents with 20-30 attending annually. There have been no parent complaints and no opt outs in the past two years. Additionally, White Pines had to make the video available in a virtual format during pandemic learning for those families that elected virtual lessons. This first exposure to reproductive health is done well, with a

scientific explanation of the body's changes that seem to put students at ease. No adjustments to this lesson or system of delivery are suggested.

### **7th Grade:**

Seventh graders at Lakeshore Middle School watch the video, [AIDS Update: The Latest Facts About HIV and AIDS](#). The 28-minute video provides information about transmission, treatment, limitations of treatment and prevention of HIV and AIDS. The learning target is related to how a virus attacks the immune system and how to prevent it. The term abstinence is defined. Parents receive advanced notice about the content and they may choose to opt out of this one-day lesson.

### **7th Grade Program Evaluation**

Students are assessed on the learning target with a post-video discussion to clarify understanding. A short formative assessment is given to individuals to check for understanding. The video has been used for many years. Teachers are wondering if there is a resource that is more current. Any changes would require review and approval from the Sex education Advisory Board and the GHAPS Board of Education. Less than 1% of students' parents opt out of the video in the last two years.

### **Grades 8-12:**

Health Class, offered to students in grades 8-12 for high school credit, includes a four-week sex education unit. The curriculum comes from Michigan Model's Healthy and Responsible Relationships for grades 9-12, and it is aligned with the Michigan Merit Curriculum for Health Education. The approved curriculum is implemented by health education teachers at Lakeshore Middle School, Grand Haven High School, and Central High School. Teachers have had the appropriate training, certifications, and endorsements required to teach health. Parents may opt out of the entire unit or specific lessons. One lesson may take multiple days.

Learning overview:

#### **Lesson 1: Communicating and Healthy Relationships**

- Meaning/benefits of abstinence, definitions of sex, sexuality, sexual activity, and sexual intercourse
- Video- Abstinence: Deciding to Wait; handout w/discussion questions
- Definitions and differences between infatuation, intimacy, and love
- Discussion of ways to experience intimacy without having sex
- Barriers in communication
- Role playing effective communication

#### **Lesson 2: Anatomy**

- Female – parts and purpose (notes, short video, discussion)
- Male- parts and purpose (notes, short video, discussion)
- Reproductive video (discussion questions)

#### Lesson 3: STIs and HIV/AIDS

- Introduction: video and questions on HIV/AIDS
- Six most common STIs: students share out information including symptoms, transmission, physical and emotional impact, short and long term consequences, and prevention
- HIV/AIDS risky behaviors
- Spreading of Virus Z – activity showing how easily a disease is spread
- Create public service posters or brochures in student services
- Laws regarding sex and teens in Michigan: distinguishing between facts and myths
- Focus on seven areas of influence, and how teens can be a positive influence on their peers
- Sexting and social media – guest speaker, Deputy Devries
- Sexual limits and role play/practice saying no
- Identifying and avoiding risky situations
- Video- Taking a Stand – with discussion

#### Lesson 4: Contraception and Teen Pregnancy

- Cost of parenting ad teen pregnancy
- Safe Delivery Law, adoption information
- Risk reduction and strategies
- Condom usage
- Video: It's Your Choice: Birth Control for Teens (lays out options, effectiveness, and pros and cons) – w discussion questions
- Testing – Who, Why and How with video: Unneed2Kno, discussion questions

#### Lesson 5: Looking Into the Future

- Wrap up includes determining goals for the future, and how a teen pregnancy or STI could change a student's path

~Curriculum is abstinence based: it will be repeated throughout as the best and safest option.

~Family letters that require students to discuss topics with their families or a trusted adult will be sent home as homework throughout the unit. Only a signature is required to designate a conversation.

### **Sex Education Program Evaluation**

Teachers report students are invested and engaged in lessons that are relevant to their lives. Misconceptions are addressed. Student success rate is high. Students score 80% or higher in multiple choice assessments and 70% or higher on constructed responses. Students who miss questions have corrections or re-teaching from those learning targets. The passing rate of the health class is 95%-96%. Those who do not pass are chronically absent, only attending approximately 25% of the days. There were no complaints or negative feedback from parents. Only one parent opted out

of the sex education unit fall of 2023. Teachers like the student-centered activities and mature level of discussion, noting students ask insightful questions. The only guest speaker is a member of law enforcement to speak about law related to this topic. Teachers feel particularly successful with students when discussing how to minimize and avoid risks. Students have reported to teachers that they are avoiding risks because of health class. The class has fostered trust and a sense of community. Students advocate for this class and express gratitude. Anatomy is taught with online lessons. Teachers are considering ways to improve instructional strategies for anatomy learning targets. Teachers would also like to add more formative assessments into the unit so they can measure learning more frequently to check for understanding. One teacher also thought it would be helpful if there were more community resources for people who were assaulted. That is not in the curriculum.

### **Next Steps**

The district will continue to:

- Keep teachers current on their certifications to facilitate these lessons.
- Inform parents of any lessons stated in this report.
- Listen to parent and community feedback.
- Engage the Sex Education Advisory Board in meetings according to board policy when there is a change in the content of the curriculum.
- Consider updating the HIV/AIDS lesson at Lakeshore Middle School. This will need to be approved by the Sex Ed Advisory Board using the state required process.

### **Sex Education Advisory Board**

- Tracy Wilson - principal and co-chair
- Carrie Roberson - medical professional, GHHS parent
- Kasey DeSmit - health teacher
- Erin Carmody - health teacher
- Jeremy LaDronka - GHHS parent
- Kim Schraeder - GHHS parent
- Kerri Bolitho - LMS employee and parent
- Emily Schopf - LMS parent
- Sarah Wrinkles - WPI parent
- Lisa Galer - WPI parent
- Steve Deur - Clergy
- GHHS 10th grade student, not named
- Mary Jane Evink - curriculum director

Additional copies of this report are available in Grand Haven Area Public Schools. Office of Instructional Services, 1415 Beechtree, Grand Haven, MI 49417 or online at [www.ghaps.org](http://www.ghaps.org).