Hickman County Board of Education

	Descriptor Term: **Family Life Education**	Descriptor Code: **4.2013**	Issued Date: **10/05/20**
		Rescinds: **4.2013**	Issued: **05/04/20**

A family life education program shall be implemented within the school district in compliance with state law.[1]

The Board shall annually evaluate the program and shall conduct public hearings and parental conferences at least once (1) each September as part of the evaluation.

A parent who chooses not to have a student participate in the family life education program shall submit such request in writing to the director of schools. A student who is excused from family life instruction shall be assigned alternative activities and shall not be penalized academically.

Prior to implementing the family life education curriculum, the Board shall conduct at least one (1) public hearing at which the plan will be explained and parents and community members shall be given the opportunity to express their opinions.

The goals of instruction for the family life education program shall be to:[2]

1. Provide accurate information about human reproduction, including conception, birth, and prenatal care, with specific emphasis on the family unit and the responsibilities and consequences relating to sexual activity;
2. Adapt this information to the age and grade level of students;
3. Promote, encourage and increase communication between parents and students;
4. Increase decision-making skills;
5. Offer information that will help students act responsibly;
6. Enhance and develop the student's self-esteem; and
7. Provide instruction on the prevention of dating violence.

Within these goals and at appropriate age and grade levels, the information presented will include:

1. Anatomy, physiology, and psychology of adolescence and sexual growth;
2. Marriage and responsibilities of family life;
3. Responsibilities of parents and child care;
4. Legal aspects of sexual conduct;
5. Self-respect, self-control, and individual differences among people;
6. Community resources;
7. Pregnancy and childbirth; and

8. Instruction on education, intervention, prevention, and treatment of: (A) child sexual abuse, including such abuse that may occur in the home, in accordance with the declarations and requirements of §§ 37-1-601(a) and 37-1-603(b)(3); and (B) Human trafficking in which the victim is a child.

Instruction on family life education shall emphasize that abstinence from sexual relations is the only method of protection that is 100% effective.

Personnel involved in instruction regarding human sexuality will conduct such instruction with maturity and discretion. Personnel providing family life instruction shall receive in-service training prior to presenting such instruction.

Legal References

1. TCA 49-6-1302
2. TCA 49-6-1301