



# PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN PARAMOUNT SCHOOLS

## The California Healthy Youth Act: Meeting the Need for Health Education

Board of Education Meeting  
January 23, 2017

Dr. Ruth Pérez, Superintendent  
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# Purpose of Presentation

- Provide an overview of the requirements of recent state legislation, the California Healthy Youth Act (AB 329).
- Outline current health instruction provided in PUSD and the need to begin health education early to provide students with accurate, timely information.
- Review implementation timeline.



# What is the California Healthy Youth Act ?

This legislation requires that school districts offer a comprehensive sexual health educational program to all students in grades 7-12, once in middle school and once in high school that addresses:

- Human development, pregnancy, contraception and sexually transmitted infections.
- HIV/AIDS prevention.
- *Sexual orientation, gender identity, healthy relationships and behaviors, and sexual harassment, sexual assault, sex trafficking.*



# What Does PUSD Currently Provide in Health Education?

Grade/Course	Health Topics
<b>Grade 7 Life Science</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Human Reproduction</li><li>• HIV/AIDS</li><li>• Family, Marriage and Relationships</li><li>• Making Healthy Choices</li></ul>
<b>Grades 9-12 Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Human Reproduction</li><li>• HIV/AIDS</li><li>• Making Healthy Choices</li><li>• Substance Abuse</li><li>• CPR/First Aid</li></ul>



## Parent Communication

- Parents receive a notification letter informing them that students will receive sexual health instruction and that they have the opportunity to review instructional materials. This information is also included in PUSD's Guidelines for Parents.
- A parent or guardian of a student has the right to excuse his or her child from all or part of the comprehensive sexual health education and HIV education.
- Parents who do not wish their child to participate in this instruction can opt out by notifying the school in writing.



## Planning Steps

A committee of middle and high school science and health teachers will meet to learn about this legislation and review and recommend updated supplemental health materials that align to the new requirements.



# Grade 7-12 Health Committee

<b>Meeting Dates: February/March</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Representatives</b>
Meeting #1	Overview of legislation; Process for reviewing and consensus.	Alondra Jackson Hollydale Paramount Park Zamboni
Meeting #2	Review 2 programs using specified criteria.	PHS West, PHS Buena Vista TAP
Meeting #3	Review 2 additional programs using specified criteria.	Educational Services Special Education/ School Nurse
Meeting #4	Arrive at consensus on a recommendation	



## Why is it important to provide sexual health education?

- Technology provides adolescents with access to a wide range of information pertaining to sexual health. As a result it is critical that the information they receive is medically accurate.
- Parents may feel uncomfortable discussing sexual health with children. The law requires that schools provide students with honest, age-appropriate information they need to make good choices.

*Source: Resource Center for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention*





## Why is there a need to provide health education earlier?

- Currently, health education in PUSD begins in middle school (7<sup>th</sup> grade).
- Research shows that puberty takes place at an increasingly earlier age; there is a need to provide basic information about human growth and development beginning in fifth grade.
- To meet this need, a committee will review and recommend information on adolescent growth and development for fifth grade students to be implemented in 2017-18.
- Parents will receive written notification of this instruction and will be required to give permission for their child to participate.



# Implementation Timeline

## 2016-2017 Grades 7-12

- Form a committee of 7<sup>th</sup> grade science and high school health teachers to review and recommend a program that meets requirements of the CA Healthy Youth Act.
- Revise curriculum guides to align to the new program.
- Plan professional development for 7<sup>th</sup> grade science and high school health teachers.

## 2017-2018 Grade 5

- Form a committee of 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers to review and recommend materials for human growth and development lesson.
- Provide professional development for all 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers in fall, 2017. Develop a common lesson to use with materials.
- Implement lesson in spring, 2018.



# PARAMOUNT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS

As they grow up, young people face important decisions about relationships, sexuality, and sexual behavior. The decisions they make can impact their health and well-being for the rest of their lives. Young people have the right to lead healthy lives and society has the responsibility to prepare youth by providing them with comprehensive sexual health education that gives them the tools they need to make healthy decisions.

---Report published by the *Future of Sex Education*



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*The mission of the Paramount Unified School District is to ensure learning and success for each student by providing a quality education.*