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**Family Life Education**

**TN Laws & GMSD Policies**

***Guidance Document***

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| **TN Law** | **Allowed** | **Not Allowed** |
| TCA 49-6- 1301  *Definitions:*  **(2) (A) "Abstinence-based" or "abstinence-centered"** means an approach that promotes sexual risk avoidance, or primary prevention, and teaches vital life skills that empower youth to identify healthy and unhealthy relationships, accurately understand sexually transmitted diseases and contraception, set goals, make healthy life decisions, and build character.  **(7)** "**Gateway sexual activity**" means sexual contact, as defined in subdivision (12), that could precipitate engagement in a non-abstinent behavior. A person promotes a gateway sexual activity by encouraging, advocating, urging, or condoning gateway sexual activities. | * Promotes sexual risk avoidance / abstinence * Healthy and unhealthy relationships * Sexually transmitted infections / diseases * Contraception / methods of protection * Goal setting * Making healthy life decisions * Character building * Encourage abstinence * Comprehensive sexual health education, per the following TN   Laws provided throughout this document. | * Lessons or resources not complying with TN laws and MNPS Policies * Encouraging, advocating, urging, or condoning gateway sexual activities |
| TCA 49-6-1008  *AIDS Education Program—Prevention of AIDS or other Sexually Transmitted Diseases* | * HIV and AIDS education * Terminology (e.g., HIV, AIDS) * Differentiate HIV and AIDS * Body fluids that can transmit HIV * Modes of transmission and non-transmission * Treatments * Protection methods (i.e., condoms) * Emphasize *abstinence* from sex and avoidance of drug abuse | * Display or conduct demonstrations with devices specifically manufactured for sexual stimulation * Distribute contraception or protection methods on school property; however, age and developmentally appropriate information regarding contraception or protection methods can be presented. |
| TCA 49-6-1302  *Curriculum for Family Life Education*  Each LEA shall devise, adopt, and implement a program of Family Life Education.  Each LEA shall develop and adopt a family life curriculum or adopt the state’s family life curriculum. | * Deliver the district’s developed, adopted curriculum and resources **OR** the state’s family life curriculum. * Teach comprehensive sexual health education, if district permits |  |
| TCA 49-6-1303  *Assistance in Teaching Family Life*  TCA 49-6-1304  *Family Life Instruction* | * Qualified healthcare professionals and /or social workers **can** assist with teaching Family Life Education. * Preview all materials used by guest speakers/presenters before presentation date * Use only MNPS approved guest speakers, presenters, community resource agencies * Emphatically promote abstinence from sexual behaviors * Identify benefits of remaining sexually abstinent * Provide instruction on the effects of non-marital sexual activity   on the whole person (i.e., physical, social, emotional,  psychological, economical, educational consequences)   * Provide factual, medically accurate, and age-appropriate   information   * Provide knowledge and skills for:   o healthy decision-making o developing healthy dating and other relationships o how to avoid unhealthy relationships, include dating  violence o student success in pursuing educational and life goals o creating strong marriages o forming safe and stable future families   * Encourage communication with parent, guardian, or other trusted adult about sex or other risk behaviors * Teach and allow practice of refusal skills to help resist sexual activity * Address the benefits of raising children within a marital relationship and the challenges of teen parenting (i.e., educational, psychological, physical, social, legal, and financial) | * Any individual or organization to assist in teaching Family Life that **endorses** “non-abstinence” as an appropriate or acceptable behavior or if the individual or organization **promotes** gateway sexual activity. * Promote, implicitly or explicitly, any gateway sexual activity or health message that encourages students to experiment with noncoital sexual activity * Provide or distribute materials on school grounds that condone, encourage or promote sexual activity among unmarried students |
| TCA 49-6-1304  *Family Life Instruction (cont.)* | * Discuss the interrelationship between teen sexual activity and exposure to other risk behaviors (e.g., drinking, drug use, criminal activity, dating violence). * Educate students on:   o Age of consent (18)  o Puberty o Pregnancy o Childbirth o Sexually Transmitted Diseases (infections), including but  not limited to, HIV and AIDS o Financial and emotional responsibilities of parenthood  • Provide information on contraception / protection methods to reduce the risk of pregnancy or acquiring STDs  o Use medically accurate information o Include different types of contraception / protection  methods, how the method reduces the risk, effectiveness  rate, description of use, where or how to acquire o Emphasize abstinence as the only 100% way to not get  pregnant or get an STD   * Provide information on the process and benefits of adoption. * Provide instruction on the detection, intervention, prevention,   and treatment of:  o Child Sexual Abuse, including such abuse that may occur  in the home. **(Check with your school counselor and principal about who will teach this content and how it will be taught).**  o Human Trafficking in which the victim is a child. **This information must be taught through viewing a video approved by the LEA.** | * Display or conduct demonstrations with devices specifically manufactured for sexual stimulation * Distribute contraception or protection methods on school property; however, presenting the information about contraception or protection methods is allowed. |
| TCA 49-6-1305  *Notification of Parents and Legal Guardians—Excusing Students from Family Life Instruction* | * Notify parents at least 30 days prior to teaching Family Life (use MNPS permission form) * Parent or legal guardian has the right to review/examine the grade level instructional materials. * Parent or guardian has the right to excuse their child from ANY portion or ALL portions of the Family Life Curriculum * If excusing from A PORTION or ALL portions, the parent / guardian submits a written request to the child’s lifetime wellness teacher and principal. | * Teach any portion of the Family Life Curriculum without notifying parents/guardians 30 days prior * Teach any student who doesn’t return the “active” permission letter * Penalize students for not participating in the Family Life Curriculum due to parent’s exemption |
| TCA 49-6-1305  *Notification of Parents and Legal Guardians—Excusing Students from Family Life Instruction (cont.)* | * Students excused from any or all portions of the Family Life Curriculum shall be assigned alternate health lessons. * Students shall not be penalized provided they complete all required assignments in a satisfactory and timely manner. | * Penalize students for not participating in sexual health education lessons. * Provide more work for students not participating than for those participating. |
| TCA 49-6-1306  *Complaint by Parent or Legal Guardian--- Cause of Action by Parent or Guardian* | * Comply with all TN Laws and MNPS Policies regarding Family Life Instruction * Answer students’ questions in good faith and germane to the material used within the course | • Promote or encourage sexual activity among students (gateway sexual activity) |
| TCA 49-6-1307  *Instruction of Sexual Education to Comply with Part---Scientific Study of Reproductive System Permitted* | * Teach the anatomy and physiology of the reproductive systems * Teach how to care for the reproductive systems * Can use anatomical models, posters, diagrams, or other   medically accurate materials for teaching the anatomy and physiology of the reproductive systems | • Use anatomical models for demonstrating male condom use |
| TCA 68-11-255  *Safe Haven Law* | • Inform students about details of surrendering custody of an unwanted infant without criminal liability. |  |
| SB 1195 / Public Charter 269  *Human Trafficking* | • As part of the Family Life Curriculum, teachers shall provide instruction on the detection, intervention, prevention, and treatment of human trafficking in which the victim is a child and the instruction provided must be accomplished through the viewing of a video recording approved by the LEA. |  |
| TCA 68-1-1205  *Compliance with Laws Pertaining to Abortion or Birth Control Referrals or Information by Employees--Abstinence* | * Acknowledge that abortion as a decision made by some women to terminate a pregnancy * “Vigorously” encourage students to abstain from sexual relationships or activities. | * Make abortion referrals * Advocate or encourage abortion * Prescribe any form of birth   control device or contraceptive |