

## Available Resources Provided by Mississippi Department of Education

The resources listed below can be found at this address

[http://www.healthyschoolsms.org/health\\_education/hiv\\_prevention.htm](http://www.healthyschoolsms.org/health_education/hiv_prevention.htm)

1. Work group will be convened to review curricula. This group will include representatives from MDE, district/school level, and MSDH.
2. Draft Policies Available for Review
3. List of Supplemental Resource Providers
4. Website hotline for questions
5. Health In Action Lesson Plans  
[www.activities.healthyschoolsms.org](http://www.activities.healthyschoolsms.org)
6. Professional Development Trainings for instructors teachers, counselors and nurses
7. Sample Parental Permission Forms
8. Health Education Curriculum
9. For technical assistance questions and reporting:  
[ohshb999@mde.k12.ms.us](mailto:ohshb999@mde.k12.ms.us)

- b) compile a list of classes where these topics are taught
  - c) compile a list of resource partners who presently aid in instruction
2. **What curricula are being used to teach SRE in K-5?**
  3. **Who is presently teaching SRE in 6-8 grades? (topics to include puberty, building healthy relationships, building communication skills, etc)**
    - a) compile a list of teachers who are certified health teachers
    - b) compile a list of classes where SRE is taught
    - c) compile a list of resource partners who presently aid in instruction
  4. **What curricula are being used to teach SRE in grades 6-8?**
  5. **Who is presently teaching SRE in your district high school(s)?**
    - a) compile a list of teachers who are certified health teachers
    - b) compile a list of classes where SRE is taught
    - c) compile a list of resource partners who presently aid in instruction
  6. **What curricula are being used in high school – is it abstinence-only or abstinence-plus according to definitions within the law?**
  7. **Access the logistics of separating the boys and the girls when instruction is being given.**
    - a) What about the placement of students who have opted out of instruction?
  8. **How will your district/school handle parent permission forms?**
    - a) Signed at first parent-teacher conference
    - b) Signed at Open House
    - c) Sent home in Back to School packets
    - d) Made available on school website for download

## **Develop District Plan for Implementation**

1. Parental Permission-dissemination and maintenance of completed forms
2. Clearly define the staff that will be responsible for student instruction
3. Separation of boys and girls, management of time and space, including students whose parents have opted out
4. Declare district choice (abstinence-only or abstinence-plus)
5. Policy development and Board adoption
6. Make curriculum choices from the provided list of curricula
7. Report choice to Office of Healthy Schools indicating curricula that will be used by July 30, 2012
8. Begin implementation August 2012

## **District Implementation Plan House Bill 999 Sex-Related Education (SRE)**

### **What the Bill Requires**

Districts to adopt either an abstinence-only or an abstinence-plus policy  
Select the curricula from approved list  
Parents to either opt in or opt out of sex-related health education  
Boys and girls to be separated during instruction  
No instruction or demonstration on condom use  
No instruction of abortion as a method of birth-control  
Report policy and curriculum choice to Office of Healthy Schools

### **Statement of Best Practices**

The best practice for a district SRE program is sequential in its scope and age appropriate. It should be medically accurate and meet the needs of the students and the school district. To determine those needs the district should:

- Consider the data that is available on the district, state and national level. This data should include information on student behaviors, sexually transmitted diseases, and teen pregnancy.
- Form a group of interested stakeholders including parents, community leaders and educators (health council) to give input on the plan, using the wellness policy as a guide
- Communicate with parents and community regarding the direction of this implementation, being as transparent as possible.

### **Assess Your Present Situation**

- 1) Review available data

To access data on STDs & HIV reported by the Mississippi Department of Health please click on the link below:

[http://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/\\_static/14,0,150.html#Reports](http://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/14,0,150.html#Reports)

To access Teenage Vital Statistics Data please click on the link below:

<http://msdh.ms.gov/phs/stat2009.htm>

- 2) Determine grade level where instruction will begin

- 3) Use these questions as a guide to determine district needs:

**1. Who is presently teaching SRE in K-5? (topics that include “good touch”, “bad touch”, making friends, having respect for myself and others, building communication skills, etc)**

- a) compile a list of teachers, nurses or counselors who teach these topics