

HIV/AIDS PREVENTION EDUCATION

The life-threatening dangers of HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) and AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome) and its prevention shall be taught to students receiving their total public education directly through NWESD 189 cooperative programs (e.g., Discovery Programs). HIV/AIDS prevention education shall be limited to the discussion of the life-threatening dangers of the disease, its transmission and its prevention. Students shall receive such education at least once each school year beginning no later than the fifth grade.

The HIV/AIDS prevention education program shall be selected from approved member district curriculum, which has been developed in consultation with teachers, administrators, parents, and other community members including, but not limited to, persons from medical, public health, and mental health organizations and agencies. The curricula and materials used in the HIV/AIDS education program may be the model curricula and resources available through OSPI or, if developed by a member school district, be approved for medical accuracy by the State Department of Health, HIV/AIDS Prevention and Education Services (Office on AIDS).

At least one (1) month before teaching HIV/AIDS prevention education in any classroom, the NWESD 189 will conduct, during weekend and evening hours for the parents/guardians of students, at least one (1) presentation concerning the curricula and materials that will be used for such education. The parents/guardians shall be notified of the presentation and that the curricula and materials are available for inspection. No student will be required to participate in HIV/AIDS prevention education if the student's parent/guardian, having attended one (1) of the NWESD 189 presentations, objects in writing to participation (see Form 2126-F1).

The curriculum for HIV/AIDS prevention education shall be designed to teach these students which behaviors place a person dangerously at risk of infection with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and methods to avoid such risk minimally including: the dangers of drug abuse, especially that involving the use of hypodermic needles; and the dangers of sexual intercourse, with or without condoms.

The program of HIV/AIDS prevention education shall stress the life-threatening dangers of contracting HIV/AIDS and shall stress that abstinence from sexual activity is the only certain means for preventing the transmission of HIV through sexual contact. The instruction shall also stress that condoms and other artificial means of birth control are not a certain means of preventing the transmission of HIV, and reliance on condoms puts persons at risk for exposure to the disease.

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Reference:
RCW 28A.230.070
RCW 28A.310.180
RCW 28A.310.340
RCW 28A.300.475
RCW 70.24.250