

**SHAC, Health Education Sub-Committee, Human Sexuality and Responsibility
Recommendation
June 5, 2019**

The Health Education Subcommittee for the Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC) would like to offer a recommendation to the SHAC on the updated grades 6-8 scope and sequence and lessons selected from the RFP process for Human Sexuality and Responsibility (HSR) curriculum changes.

The Subcommittee recognizes all District staff involved in this process for their diligence and professionalism under challenging circumstances. We thank them for their commitment to transparency, community feedback, and advocacy for AISD students and teachers.

Since the vote at our February meeting recommending the HSR scope and sequence, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved those documents. Next, the procurement department posted a solicitation on the District website for the HSR curriculum which was open for proposals until March 27, 2019. The SHAC received an update on the RFP process at the May 1, 2019 meeting. The report included that internal evaluation of proposals is complete and the selected lessons will be available for community input in the Science Health Resource Center from May 21-24, 2019 and in a parent input meeting the evening of May 21st. The content made available for review and feedback during that time included lessons for grades 3-5 written by district staff, lessons for grade 6-8 from the *Get Real* curriculum with minor adaptations to align the program with local policy, and an amended 6-8th grade scope and sequence to align the document with the program.

Sex education *is* education. It is essential to young people's health, relationships, and life goals. All Austin ISD students deserve to have the information, resources, and skills they need to protect their health and build their future — without shame or judgment. Sex education at all grade levels is recommended by experts has a proven track record of helping young people develop the knowledge and skills they need to make healthy decisions about their relationships, their health, and their future.

For these reasons, the subcommittee recommends for grades 6-8:

1. Approval of the amended 6-8th grade scope and sequence; and,
2. Use of the *Get Real* middle school curriculum with adaptations to align with local policy for use in 6-8th grade classrooms; and,
3. If State mandates limit this District's choice of HSR lessons, SHAC supports the use of a curriculum package which meets the 19RFP106 Human Sexuality & Responsibility Curriculum RFP criteria

For these reasons, the subcommittee recommends for grades 3-5:

1. Use of any bid that was submitted, reviewed, and was determined to meet the District 19RFP106 Human Sexuality & Responsibility Curriculum RFP criteria

- requirements as long as a reasonable period has been allowed for parental review and commentary of any curriculum that is ultimately chosen; or,
2. In the alternative, use of district-created lessons for grades 3-5 in the 2019-2020 school year. Continue to search for a curriculum package which meets the 19RFP106 Human Sexuality & Responsibility Curriculum RFP criteria for grades 3-5 for use beginning in the 2020-2021 school year.