

DID YOU KNOW.....

CPS HAS A SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION POLICY?

Since 1965, CPS has been responsible for providing sexual health education to CPS students. The most recent policy, known as the CPS Sexual Health Education Policy (CPS Board Report: 13-0227-PO1), was approved by the Chicago Board of Education in February 2013. The primary goals of the policy are to:

1. Ensure all CPS students in kindergarten through high school receive sexual health education that:
 - » is comprehensive
 - » is developmentally appropriate
 - » is medically accurate
 - » emphasizes abstinence as a component of healthy sexual decision-making
2. Decrease sexual risk-taking behaviors that lead to sexually transmitted infections/HIV and unintended pregnancies.

THERE ARE MINUTE AND TOPIC REQUIREMENTS FOR EACH GRADE LEVEL?

Sexual health education provides adolescents with the knowledge that they will use throughout their development and into adulthood. The knowledge that they gain will help them to make informed decisions and safe choices that are respectful of themselves and others. Sexual Health Education is expected to be delivered to all students in grades K-12. Topics are aligned with the 2012 National Sexuality Education Standards.

- » Grades K-4 – Requires 300 teaching minutes per grade, annually. Instruction lays the foundational sexual health education.
- » Grades 5-12 – Requires 675 teaching minutes per grade, annually. Education expands upon the foundational instruction and continues to increase learning.

CPS REQUIRES TEACHERS TO BE TRAINED FOR SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION INSTRUCTION?

School Principals must designate at minimum 2 instructors per school to be trained by the Office of Student Health and Wellness (OSHW) to fulfill CPS policy teaching requirements. OSHW will provide online, city wide or school specific trainings. School staff can register for training opportunities via CPS University (search word: sexual health).

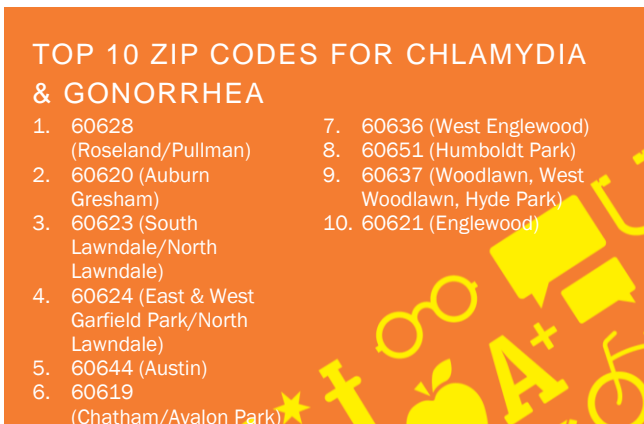
CPS PROVIDES SCHOOL SUPPORT FOR SEXUAL HEALTH EDUCATION IMPLEMENTATION?

To assist schools in providing Sexual Health Education, we offer the following:

- » Technical support to schools for any sexual health education related issues.
- » Access to free, approved curriculum that is in alignment with CPS policy for implementing sexual health education.
- » Sexual Health Education Toolkit for implementation.
- » Assistance in linking schools with community partners that provide sexual health education.
- » Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) education, screening and treatment for high school students through a partnership with the Chicago Department of Public Health.

DID YOU KNOW.....

COOK COUNTY, WHICH INCLUDES CHICAGO, RANKS 1ST AND 2ND FOR THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CASES OF GONORRHEA AND CHLAMYDIA IN THE U.S.?



ACCORDING TO THE CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, IN 2009, YOUTH AGED 13-29 ACCOUNTED FOR 39% (425) OF 1,092 PEOPLE NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH HIV IN CHICAGO?

ACCORDING TO THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, IN 2008, 12.8% OF CHICAGO TEENS (19 YEARS OLD OR YOUNGER) GAVE BIRTH TO 5,800 CHILDREN?

Pregnancy and birth are significant contributors to high school dropout rates among girls. Only about 50% of teen mothers receive a high school diploma by age 22, versus nearly 90% of women who had not given birth during adolescence.

PARENTS CAN HELP REDUCE THE RATES OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS AND UNINTENDED PREGNANCIES?

Studies show that children who feel they can talk with their parents about sex are less likely to engage in high-risk behavior as teens than children who do not feel they

can talk with their parents about the subject. (National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, 2008)

- » Talk to your children about sex and relationships. Include your values about sex and the emotional and physical consequences of sexual relationships.
- » Involve yourself in your child's education by being aware of and supporting sexual health education being taught at their school.
- » Support honest, balanced sex education that is comprehensive and that includes education about abstinence and contraception.
- » Know the official policies on sex education for Chicago Public Schools.

For more information or technical support please contact:

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