



Document Name:	Maturation & Human Sexuality Education Policy
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1.0 Purpose

Wasatch Waldorf Charter School believes the primary responsibility of sexuality and maturation education rests with the parents/guardians of each student. However, it is essential students understand and respect self and others related to human development and relationships. Therefore, some instruction may involve “Human Sexuality Education” and “Maturation Education.” In order to ensure the curriculum at Wasatch Waldorf Charter School meets standards of accuracy and appropriateness, the following curriculum review process has been established.

2.0 Definition

“**Curriculum Materials Review Committee**” means a committee formed at the school level, that includes parents, health professionals, school health educators, and administrators, with at least as many parents as school employees. The membership of the Curriculum Materials Review Committee shall be appointed and reviewed annually by August 1 of each year by the Board.

“**Human Sexuality Education**” means any course, unit, class, activity or presentation that provides instruction or information to students about sexual abstinence, human sexuality, human reproduction, reproductive anatomy, physiology, pregnancy, marriage, childbirth, parenthood, contraception, HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, or refusal skills (as defined below).

“**Board**” means the Wasatch Waldorf Charter School I governing board.

“**Maturation Education**” means instruction and materials used to provide fifth or sixth grade students with age appropriate, accurate information regarding the physical and emotional changes associated



with puberty, to assist in protecting students from abuse and to promote hygiene and good health practices.

"Parent" means a parent or legal guardian.

"Refusal skills" means:

1. instruction in a student's ability to clearly and expressly refuse sexual advances by a minor or adult;
2. instruction in a student's obligation to stop the student's sexual advances if refused by another individual;
3. instruction informing a student of the student's right to report and seek counseling for unwanted sexual advances;
4. instruction in sexual harassment; and
5. instruction informing a student that a student may not consent to criminally prohibited activities or activities for which the student is legally prohibited from giving consent, including the electronic transmission of sexually explicit images by an individual of the individual or another.

(53G-10-402) (R277-474)

3.0 Policy Content

Governing Board Adoption of Human Sexuality Education and Maturation Education Instructional Materials

- A. The Curriculum Materials Review Committee shall meet on a regular basis as determined by its membership, shall select its own officers, shall appoint a Chair, and shall be subject to the Open and Public Meetings Act, Sections 52-4-1 through 52-4-10 of the Utah Code.
- B. The Curriculum Materials Review Committee shall make all instructional materials and curriculum available for reasonable review to the parents of Wasatch Waldorf Charter School students prior to consideration for adoption by the Board.

- C. The Curriculum Materials Review Committee shall recommend to the Board all instructional materials and curriculum related to Human Sexuality Education and Maturation Education.
- D. To comply with Utah Code section 53G-10-402, Human Sexuality Education curriculum materials shall stress:
 - a. the importance of abstinence from all sexual activity before marriage and fidelity after marriage as methods for preventing certain communicable diseases; and
 - b. personal skills that encourage individual choice of abstinence and fidelity.
- E. Curriculum materials may not teach:
 - a. the intricacies of intercourse, sexual stimulation or erotic behavior;
 - b. the advocacy of premarital or extramarital sexual activity; or
 - c. the advocacy or encouragement of the use of contraceptive methods or devices.
- F. The Human Sexuality Education and Maturation Education curriculum materials recommended by the Curriculum Materials Review Committee must be medically accurate. This means that the information must be verified or supported by a body of research conducted in compliance with scientific methods and published in journals that have received peer-review, where appropriate, and recognized as accurate and objective by professional organizations and agencies with expertise in the relevant field.
- G. At no time may instruction be provided, including responses to spontaneous questions raised by students, regarding any means or methods that facilitate or encourage the violation of any state or federal criminal law by a minor or an adult.
- H. The board may approve by majority vote present at a public and properly noticed meeting the instructional materials recommended by the Curriculum Materials Review Committee only if they:
 - a. comply with all the criteria set forth in this policy and in Utah Administrative Rule R277-474 et seq.;



- b. are medically accurate; and
- I. were available to parents for reasonable review prior to consideration for adoption.
- J.
- K. In accordance with 53G-10-402, Wasatch Waldorf Charter School will include instruction on adoption as part of the health curriculum for students in grades seven or eight, so that students shall receive instruction on at least two occasions during the period that begins with the beginning of grade 8 and the end of grade 12.
- L. The Curriculum Materials Review Committee shall make all instructional materials and curriculum available for reasonable review to the parents/guardians of Wasatch Waldorf Charter School students prior to consideration for adoption by the Governing Board.
- M. The Curriculum Materials Review Committee and the Governing Board shall review on an annual basis, the decisions of the Board regarding Human Sexuality Education and Maturation Education.

Professional Development Requirements

All newly hired or newly assigned educators with responsibility for any aspect of Human Sexuality Education shall attend professional development outlining the approved curriculum and the legal requirements and criteria for Human Sexuality Education instruction. This training is required at least once every three years.

Guest Speaker Approval Requirements

The Curriculum Materials Review Committee shall review and approve all guest speakers and guest presenters and their respective materials relating to Human Sexuality Education in any course and Maturation Education prior to their presentation at the school. The Curriculum Materials Review Committee may not authorize the presentation of any Human Sexuality Education or Maturation Education programs that are not previously approved by the Board or consistent with with Utah Code or Administrative Rule requirements.

Reporting Requirements

- A. Educators with responsibility for Human Sexuality Education shall record parent and community complaints, comments, and the educator's responses regarding the Human Sexuality instructional program.
- B. The school will log and track parent and community complaints resulting from student participation in Human Sexuality Education. The school will provide a log of complaints, including the school's disposition of the complaints, to the State Superintendent of Education upon request.
- C. The Executive Director shall report any educators who violate this policy to the Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission.
- D. If the Board adopts curriculum materials that are not approved by the State Instructional Materials Commission, the school shall prepare and provide an annual report to the State Board of Education that includes:
 - a. a copy of the Human Sexuality Education and Human Maturation instructional materials adopted by the Board;
 - b. documentation that the materials were adopted in a public Board meeting;
 - c. documentation that the materials are medically accurate;
 - d. documentation of the recommendation of materials by the Curriculum Materials Review Committee;
 - e. a statement of the Board's rationale for selecting materials not approved by the instructional materials commission.

Parent/Guardian Authorization

- A. Parents/guardians will receive a Parent/Guardian Consent Form when "Human Sexuality Education" and/or "Maturation Education" instruction will be presented at Wasatch Waldorf Charter School. (See appendix A.) Please note that a student will not be able to participate unless a signed consent form is received by Wasatch Waldorf Charter School from the parent/guardian. The absence of any students due to lack of parent authorization for participation in these activities will be considered an "Excused Absence."



- B. Curriculum resources can be made available upon parental request regardless of a student's participation in the school-provided program.

4.0 Relevant Procedures, Guidelines & Restrictions

Other Requirements

Wasatch Waldorf Charter School complies with all other reporting, professional development, and other Charter School requirements established by § 53A-13-101 of the Utah Code and R277-474-5 of the Utah Administrative Code.

5.0 Exhibits / Appendices / Forms

5.1 Appendix A: Parent/Guardian Consent Form



Utah State Board of Education Parent/Guardian Consent Form Human Sexuality Instruction

Parents must receive this form no later than two weeks prior to the beginning of instruction

Name of Student: _____

Course: _____ Teacher(s): _____

School: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Dear Parents/Guardian:

As part of your child's education, he/she has enrolled in a course that includes instruction on topics related to human sexuality. You are receiving this consent form because instruction and/or discussion of human sexuality topics are controlled by state law and/or Utah State Board of Education rule. Please read the form carefully, select **one option**, sign, and return to the teacher above. Your student will not be allowed to participate in class activities without this completed and signed form on file. Thank you.

Information

All instruction related to human sexuality and/or sexual activity will take place within the context of Utah State Law (53A-13-101) and Utah State Board of Education rule (R277-474) as follows:

- The public schools will teach sexual abstinence before marriage and fidelity after marriage
- There will be prior parental consent before teaching any aspect of contraception and/or condoms
- Students will learn about communicable diseases, including those transmitted sexually, and HIV/AIDS

Program materials and guest speakers supporting instruction on these topics have been reviewed and approved by the local district review committee.

The following are NOT approved by the State Board of Education for instruction and may not be taught:

- The intricacies of intercourse, sexual stimulation, or erotic behavior;
- The advocacy of premarital or extramarital sexual activity;
- The advocacy or encouragement of the use of contraceptive methods or devices;
- The advocacy of sexual activity outside of marriage.

In accordance with Utah State Board of Education Rule R277-474-7-D, teachers may respond to spontaneous student questions for the purpose of providing accurate data or correcting inaccurate or misleading information or comments made by students in class regarding human sexuality.