

PIEDMONT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Donald Evans, Interim Superintendent
Dr. Cheryl Wozniak, Assistant Superintendent

PRESENTERS: Karyn Shipp, Piedmont Middle School Principal
Sukanya Goswami, Piedmont High School Principal
Travis Brennan, PHS/MHS Health Science Teacher

DATE: May 10, 2023

SUBJECT: **FIRST READING: ADOPTION OF MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL HEALTH
SCIENCE INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS**

PURPOSE: To present the instructional materials that middle and high school health science teachers and administrators recommend for Board adoption

BACKGROUND:

All students in California should have access to high-quality health education. Our students experience many real and potential health challenges that could be improved by high-quality health education. In 2019, the State Board of Education adopted a new Health Framework. Here is a link to the framework <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/he/cf/>.

The Health Education Framework is aligned to the 2008 *California Health Education Content Standards*, which support the development of knowledge, skills, and attitudes in eight overarching standards: (1) essential health concepts; (2) analyzing health influences; (3) accessing valid health information; (4) interpersonal communication; (5) decision making; (6) goal setting; (7) practicing health-enhancing behaviors; and (8) health promotion in six content areas of health education: nutrition and physical activity; growth, development, and sexual health; injury prevention and safety; alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; mental, emotional, and social health; and personal and community health in the 2008 *Health Education Content Standards*, which can be found by going to the [Curriculum Frameworks and Instructional Resources Division Content Standards web page](#).

Process

Following the adoption of a new state framework, instructional materials are written by various

publishers and the state reviews and adopts curriculum that meet the highest standard. Given the wide range of courses at the high school level, the state does not adopt a list of materials for 9-12. Instead, school districts develop their own process for reviewing curriculum following guidelines outlined by the California Department of Education. Piedmont Unified follows the same rigorous process for curriculum adoptions for grades K-12.

PUSD Health Council

The process of examining how health education is taught in PUSD began in the 2019-20 school year with the formation of a districtwide health council comprised of classroom teachers, classified staff, nurses, counselors, psychologists, administrators, community health professionals, and two Board members. The council met in February 2020, just before the state went into shelter-in-place due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Due to the monumental efforts of Marna Chamberlain and Katrina Minck, two teachers on special assignment, a comprehensive health audit was conducted in spring in spite of going into distance learning. The results of the health curriculum audit revealed that most of the health education standards were not being taught in any explicit manner K-12.

The Health Council was reconvened in the 2021-22 school year. Led by health expert and community member, Narda Skov, the Health Council studied the health standards and the results of the previous audit. The outcome was a recommendation to create a middle school health course and to shift social psychology to a health science course. Both of these changes have been made and the curriculum being recommended will be taught in these two courses.

Curriculum Reviewed

There were a limited number of books available to be reviewed. Below is the list of main textbooks reviewed by the members of the committee:

1. ***Comprehensive Health Skills for High School* - published by Goodheart-Wilcox**
2. ***Comprehensive Health Skills for Middle School* - published by Goodheart-Wilcox**
3. *Glencoe Health* - middle school and high school - published by McGraw Hill

This curriculum was eliminated primarily due to the lack of depth of subject matter and less engaging activities for students.

The following supplemental materials were reviewed to meet the requirements of the California Healthy Your Act not covered in depth in the core textbooks:

1. *Health Smart* - published by ETR
2. *Healthy Me, Healthy Us* - San Francisco Unified
3. *Making Proud Choices* - published by ETR
4. *Positive Prevention Plus* - published by Positive Prevention Plus
5. *Rights, Respect, Responsibility* - published by Advocates for Youth

6. *Sexual Health and Wellness Skills* - published by Goodheart Wilcox
7. *Puberty Talk* - published by Health Connected
8. *Teen Talk* - published by Health Connected

Parent Engagement

Parents are able to review hard copies of the health science curriculum on display at the district office or they can go to the links provided by principals sent via their newsletters. Google forms for each curriculum were included for parents to provide feedback. A summary of parent feedback will be provided at the Board meeting.

Course	Curriculum	Links for Parents to Review Curriculum
7th Grade Health	<i>Comprehensive Health Skills for Middle School</i>	1. Go to: https://www.g-wonlinetextbooks.com/ 2. Enter the username: psdhs 3. Enter the password: health23 Link to feedback form
7th Grade Health Supplemental CHYA resource	<i>Teen Talk Grades 7-8</i>	Not available electronically by the publisher, Health Connect. Print copies are available at the district office located at 760 Magnolia Ave.
6th Grade Wheel Course	<i>Puberty Talk Grades 5-6</i>	Not available electronically by the publisher, Health Connect. Print copies are available at the district office located at 760 Magnolia Ave.
10th Grade Health Science	<i>Comprehensive Health Skills for High School</i>	4. Go to: https://www.g-wonlinetextbooks.com/ 5. Enter the username: psdhs 6. Enter the password: health23 Link to feedback form
10th Grade Health Supplemental CHYA resource	<i>Teen Talk Grades 9-12</i>	Not available electronically by the publisher, Health Connect. Print copies are available at the district office located at 760 Magnolia Ave.

RECOMMENDATION: First Reading Middle and High School Health Science Curriculum

Dr. Cheryl Wozniak, Assistant Superintendent, and middle and high school staff will present the first reading for the health science instructional materials.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact is the cost of the instructional materials currently estimated at \$54,000 based on the current enrollment numbers.