

## REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND SAFETY EDUCATION

As required by law, Pitt County Schools will provide a reproductive health and safety education program commencing in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade that includes the following instruction:

- Teaches abstinence from sexual activity outside of marriage is the expected standard for all school age children
- Presents techniques and strategies to deal with peer pressure and offering positive reinforcement
- Presents reasons, skills, and strategies for remaining or becoming abstinent from sexual activity

Each school will be responsible for parental awareness. A letter will be sent home containing a brief summary of each lesson to be taught and advising parents of the opportunity to review the materials and of their right to withhold consent for the student to participate. Parents will be informed that requests to withhold consent must be made in writing to the principal; otherwise, consent to take part in the program will be presumed.

The health education programs will be taught by certified teachers who have received sufficient preparation to effectively teach them. Staff development opportunities should be provided, as necessary, to ensure sufficient knowledge, comfort, and teaching methods for these topics. It is the responsibility of school personnel to inform resource speakers of the Reproductive Health and Safety Education guidelines for Pitt County Schools.

The school district and each school should continually evaluate and improve the effectiveness of the health education programs.

**Last Revision/Adoption:** None

**Legal References:** G.S. 115C art. 9; 115C-36, -81(e1); State Board of Education Policies GCS-D-000, GCS-F-007; *Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities*

**Cross References:** Policy 9.206 (Comprehensive Health Education Program)