

ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY IN THE PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION CURRICULUM

Background

The health components of PHE K-10 address topics which may be a source of sensitivity for some students and their parents. In these cases, students with their parent's consent and in consultation with their school may choose alternate delivery. The following procedures outline how that delivery may occur and adhere to the Ministry of Education's policy regarding Alternate Delivery in PHE K-10 curricula.

It is important to note that this alternative delivery option is available only for topics which are part of the health component of the PHE curricula with specifics related to reproduction and sexuality (Ministerial Order 295/95 and Ministerial Order 302/04). These topics do not include lessons and topics related to sexual orientation and gender identity unless they relate directly to reproduction and sexuality.

In British Columbia, the Alternative Delivery Policy gives parents the ability to teach health topics from the Physical and Health Education curriculum at home. However, it is important to note that this does not exempt students from learning about these topics. Parents must work with their school so that their children meet these learning standards at home and a student must be able to demonstrate their understanding of these topics.

Procedures

- 1 Teachers will notify parents and students in advance of topics to be studied which are covered in the health component of the PHE K-10 curricula. Such notification is to be sent home at least two weeks prior to the unit of study and must include the specific curricular content and core competencies to be covered. Any guest speakers coming to work with the students should also be identified at this time.
- 2 Where a student (and parent) requests to complete a topic which they determine is sensitive with respect to family values, the teacher shall meet with the student and/or their parent to confer on a course of action, but this request does not provide the option for a student to "opt-out" of learning about these topics.
- 3 The student will adhere to the following in pursuing the alternative delivery option in the PHE K-10 curricula.
 - 3.1 The student/parent identifies the specific "sensitive areas" of the health section of the PHE program.
 - 3.2 Parents communicate their concerns to the teacher and may indicate their desire to opt for alternative delivery of the curricular content as described in the Ministry's Alternative Delivery Policy.
 - 3.3 The school, student and parent agree on the options chosen for alternative delivery and the method by which the student will demonstrate the curricular content. Alternative options might include:

- Home instruction using a school-determined package of materials or other agreed upon materials.
- Distance education (PHE).
- Self-directed studies.
- Use of resources listed on SD43 web page.

3.4 Teacher/School Counselor needs to document and maintain a record of the Alternate Learning Plan. This should be signed off by an Administrator. The Alternate Learning Plan should include a timeline of expected completion and students must present evidence of their learning.

3.5 Responsibility for demonstrating completion of these Learning Outcomes is that of the student. All Learning Outcomes will be completed for the health section of PHE.

3.6 Intention to opt for alternative delivery of the health section of PHE is to be declared at the commencement of the course.

Reference: Form 207-1 Alternative Delivery of Health Education K-10
Ministerial Order 295/95
Ministerial Order 302/04

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