



GCC Health Education Facts & Information for Parents

The following information is being provided to parents to help them understand how the California Health Framework and the California Healthy Youth Act will be implemented within Gateway Community Charter schools. We want to help you make an informed decision about your child's education. Thank you for taking the time to thoroughly read this fact and information sheet.

California Healthy Youth Act

- Requires all schools, including charter schools in 2019-20, to teach sexual health education and HIV prevention units once in middle school and once in high school.
- GCC schools have not adopted a curriculum for this requirement. It will be adopted in the fall of 2019 and taught in the spring of 2020.
- A notification letter will be sent to parents 14 days before AB 329 Sexual Health Education material is taught to inform parents of the dates.
- Parents will be able to review the material that will be taught in their child's class prior to the instruction of the material.
- Parents may opt out of Sexual Health Education and HIV Prevention by writing a note to the school staff.

California Health Framework

- The 2019 Health Education Curriculum Framework is separate from the California Healthy Youth Act of 2016.
- The 2019 Health Education Curriculum Framework is a guidance document for teachers and administrators in implementing California's health standards. There are no mandates that require schools to use the *Health Education Framework*.
- The Framework does not mandate what is taught in schools. Districts and charter schools may use it as a guide in developing a scope and sequence for locally designed health education program.
- California is NOT requiring teachers to teach gender identity in elementary schools.

Parent Rights

- Removing your child from school in relation to a protest or belief is your right as a parent. Please understand it will be an unexcused absence.
- The letter created by "Informed Parents of California" that encouraged families to participate in a "Sex Ed Sit Out" had several pieces of inaccurate information that do not apply to Gateway Community Charter schools. Please see the following link from the California Department of Education for information on the California Healthy Youth Act and the 2019 Health Education Curriculum Framework:
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/he/cf/cahealthfaq.asp>