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*Pathway to the Future*

*March 27, 2017*

*Dear BUSD 7th Grade Parent/Guardian:*

*California state law, the California Healthy Youth Act, requires that comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education be provided to students at least once in middle school or junior high school, starting in grade 7.*

*Instruction must encourage students to communicate with parents, guardians or other trusted adults about human sexuality. Instruction must be medically accurate, age-appropriate and inclusive of all students. It must include the following:*

- Information about HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including transmission, FDA approved methods to prevent HIV and STIs, and treatment
- Information that abstinence is the only certain way to prevent unintended pregnancy and HIV and other STIs, and information about value of delaying sexual activity
- Discussion about social views of HIV and AIDS
- Information about accessing resources for sexual and reproductive health care
- Information about pregnancy, including FDA approved prevention methods, pregnancy outcomes, prenatal care, and the newborn safe surrender law
- Information about sexual orientation and gender, including the harm of negative gender stereotypes
- Information about healthy relationships and avoiding unhealthy behaviors and situations

*You can examine instructional materials at the Berryessa Union School District office. If you have questions, please see the teacher or principal. You may request a copy of the California Healthy Youth Act (California Education Code Sections 51930-51939) by contacting Education Services at the district office.*

*This instruction will be provided by your child's seventh grade teacher.*

*State law allows you to remove your student from this instruction. If you do not want your student to participate in comprehensive sexual health or HIV prevention education, please give a written request to the school's principal by April 10, 2017.*

*Sincerely,*

  
Joseph McCreary

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