



File IGD

### **GUIDELINES FOR PRESENTING SENSITIVE ISSUES TO STUDENTS**

The Physical Education/Health Education curriculum student learning outcomes contains content that is potentially sensitive. The strands on “Substance Abuse and Abuse Prevention” and “Human Sexuality” as well as the “Personal Safety” strand contain most of this type of content.

1. The School Division believes that parents should play an active role in planning for the implementation of sensitive curriculum issues. All schools should therefore develop an implementation plan that includes the involvement of parents.
2. Follow the current Board policies and guidelines. Most relevant policies are IGC and IGC-R.
3. All parents are to be given early notice when sensitive topics are going to be discussed with students. This includes presentations by outside groups and our own staff. Make parents aware of the purpose of the presentation and of any materials or information that is available for them to preview. Advise them of their option as parents to withdraw the child from the presentation.
4. Ask all outside presenters to provide an outline and/or synopsis of the presentation in advance. If such an outline is not available, the school staff should interview the presenter to gather as much information as possible prior to the presentation.
5. All requests to involve outside speakers or agencies should be followed up with a written invitation. The invitation should clearly state the student learning outcomes, ages of students, number of participants, length of presentation requested, and any other information that will help the presenter meet the school’s needs.
6. As each grade has its own set of outcomes they should not be combined unless there are extenuating circumstances. Ensure that topics covered can be defended as being part of the curriculum.
7. A team (more than one person) should thoroughly review the content of the presentation prior to its delivery, particularly if you are unfamiliar with the presenters or have not seen the actual presentation.
8. All students should be provided with adequate preparation prior to the presentation. This allows them to put new information into its intended context.



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9. Ensure that the presentation is not overly long. This helps prevent confusion among the learners.
10. The use of graphic pictures should be given careful consideration prior to their use.
11. Ensure that there are two or more Teachers present for presentations and that they are aware of the content of the presentation. Adequate follow-up activities should be planned. For example, students may want clarifications after the speaker is gone.