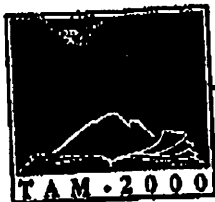


DIANE KIRKPATRICK

TAMALPAIS UNION HIGH SCHOOL



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*FYI - Mailed to
parents of 8th - 11th
grade students.*

March 1, 1995

SEXUALITY PROGRAM SURVEY - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

RECEIVED

MAR 01 1995

STUDENT SERVICES

Dear Tam High School District Parents:

Last Spring, the Tam High School District Board of Trustees appointed a 28-member 4th R Advisory Committee to develop recommendations for a District-wide comprehensive sexuality education program for students. The Committee submitted its report and recommendations to the Board on February 14th.

The Committee's recommendations are designed to foster student health, safety and responsible behavior and to empower students to change their risk-taking and sometimes life-threatening sexual behaviors. The report includes philosophy statements and recommendations in four key areas: curriculum, parent education, student support and condom availability. The Board also received a dissenting opinion from two Committee members.

Copies of the full report and dissenting opinion are available at the District Office or at any school office. Parents are encouraged to review both documents.

PARENT SURVEY: The Board recognizes that no comprehensive sexuality program can be successful without the support and participation of our parents. **THE BOARD IS ASKING PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN GRADES 8-11 TO COMPLETE THE ENCLOSED SURVEY AFTER DISCUSSING IT WITH THEIR CHILDREN. THE RESULTS WILL BE COMPILED AND AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW BY THE BOARD AND THE COMMUNITY PRIOR TO THE BOARD TAKING ANY ACTION ON THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS.**

The Board has scheduled a series of public meetings to review the Committee findings. In addition to completing the survey, please feel free to attend these meetings and participate in the discussions. They are scheduled for 7:15 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Kreps Conference Center in the District Office building on the East side of the Redwood High School campus in Larkspur (395 Doherty Drive, Larkspur - 945-3720).

- ▶ March 14th: Review report with school community.
- ▶ March 28th: Review report with superintendents and trustees from College of Marin and elementary feeder districts.

OVER →

Side 1

- 12. There are many sexually active students not using any method of protection and these students also deserve to be safe and should be provided with sexuality education and services. A D U
- 13. High schools should offer a condom availability program for their students. A D U

C. FOLLOWING ARE THE RECOMMENDED PROGRAM COMPONENTS OF THE PROPOSED DISTRICT SEXUALITY PROGRAM:

- 14. Each high school should establish a 4th R Task Force or committee to guide and monitor the implementation of the 4th R philosophy and programs, including:
 - a) promoting abstinence from sexual intercourse;
 - b) promoting safer sex and the return to abstinence among students who are currently sexually active;
 - c) increasing the awareness of the influence of alcohol and drugs on sexual decision making; and
 - d) providing sexuality, alcohol and other drug-use prevention education programs throughout the school year. A D U
- 15. District should work with K-8 elementary schools to develop a comprehensive, sequential sexuality/health curriculum and program. A D U
- 16. High school and elementary school parent-teacher clubs should create a broad based parent education committee to provide K-12 parent education services, including:
 - a) parent education workshops focusing on sex education, alcohol and other drug use, positive parenting skills, family communication and adolescent development;
 - b) parent support groups;
 - c) parent-student sexuality forums; and
 - d) parent newsletter articles focusing on student sexuality and parenting issues. A D U
- 17. The high school Social Issues course, required for graduation, should focus more extensively on sexuality education issues and the relationship between alcohol and other drug use and sexual behaviors. (Parent permission for student participation is required by law.) A D U
- 18. District should continue to offer the high school elective, Human Sexuality, at all District High schools. (Parent permission for student participation is required.) A D U
- 19. High school sexuality courses should emphasize abstinence, delaying of sexual activity and the return to abstinence as viable and healthy options for students. A D U
- 20. District should offer a Peer Resource elective class at each high school, with students trained in active listening, communication skills, peer tutoring, making appropriate referrals to adults and providing classroom presentations on sexuality issues. A D U
- 21. Sexuality education teachers should receive training and support to learn the most current factual information and most effective instructional strategies. A D U

D. RECOMMENDATION FOR CONDOM AVAILABILITY PROGRAM:

- 22. Informed Consent: Parent/guardian would be informed annually, in writing, of the condom availability program and their right to decline permission for their child to participate.

Please circle the option you believe is the most appropriate:

OPTION ONE: Negative Consent - Parent and guardian returns a signed form if they **DO NOT** give their child permission to participate.

OPTION TWO: Positive Consent - Parent and guardian returns a signed form if they **DO** give their child permission to participate.

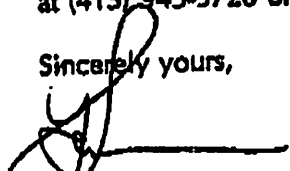
- 23. Each high school should establish a Condom Availability Program by February 1996. Key components of the program would include:
 - a) A District committee with medical expertise to recommend the content of educational information and materials distributed to students as part of the program.
 - b) Condoms distributed to participating students by school health-care personnel or health-care volunteers only.
 - c) Mandatory, one-to-one education, including instruction on how to use a condom, prior to student receiving a condom.
 - d) Funds for purchase of condoms to come from sources other than the District's general fund.
 - e) Program evaluation to be part of the initial planning process as well as an ongoing activity. A D U

- E. **COMMENTS:** Please feel free to attach comments from you or your child on what you would add, delete or modify, and why.

- ▶ April 11th: Review report with District students.
- ▶ April 25th: Board discusses possible action on the Committee report and recommendations, including possible modifications, deletions, additions, requests for additional information or study.
- ▶ May 9th: Board takes action on report and recommendations.

The Board appreciates your involvement in this all-important decision-making process. If you have questions regarding this process or the survey, please feel free to contact me by telephone at (415) 945-3720 or by fax at (415) 945-3719.

Sincerely yours,



William Levinson
Superintendent of Schools

Enclosure - Survey

S19/2

Cover Sheet to a 5th sheet
fax to Eunice Ray from Richard Sweeney
Wednesday 3/6/95

Dear Eunice:

I assume you will read this
Thursday.

Please let me know if you have
not received what I sent on Monday
and if you have not heard from
Dr. Callen.

The fax from Washington Times
is really valuable. Thank you.
Sincerely

Richard Sweeney
100 Lucky Drive Unit 208
Corle Madera CA 94925
Phone (415) 927 7318
FAX 927 0243

* Including this page

