

# A Sex Education Advisory Board Member's Guide to Sex Education in Michigan K-12 Schools

An overview of how sex education content is determined and approved and how you can be an effective advocate for comprehensive sex education in Michigan public schools



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## What does a sex education advisory board (SEAB)\* do?



\*SEABs can be called different things in different districts

Establishes sex education program goals and objectives



Reviews, recommends, and approves program materials



Evaluates, measures, and reports effectiveness of program



## What are the guidelines for sex education in Michigan?



Sex ed looks different in every school district in Michigan. Curriculum is decided at the district level.

### REQUIRED

#### Discuss Abstinence

as the only 100% effective method of preventing STIs and pregnancy

#### Refusal Skills

like saying no to sex and not pressuring someone into unwanted touching or sexual activity

#### Healthy Relationships

what they look like and how to recognize signs of abuse

#### State Laws

regarding sexuality, age of consent, and teen parenting

### ALLOWED

Anything approved by your district's SEAB

### PROHIBITED

#### Contraception Distribution

is not permitted on school grounds

You can teach about condoms, but you can't give them to your students

#### Abortion

cannot be taught as a method of family planning and abortion referrals cannot be made on school grounds





## As a SEAB member, what is expected of me?

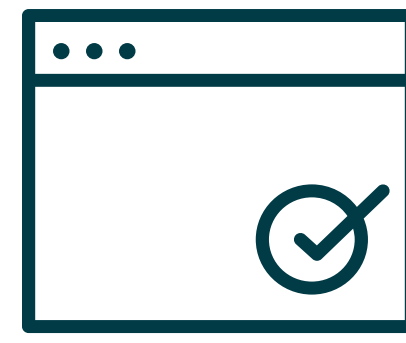
### Membership Composition



SEABs must contain the following members -

- Parents of students
- Students
- Educators
- Local clergy
- Community health professionals

### Review & Approve Content



- All sexual education content must be approved by the district's Sex Education Advisory Board (SEAB)
- As a member, this is your opportunity to recommend content and give input on proposed changes!

### Individual Responsibilities



- Each SEAB has its own rules regarding frequency, length, and timing of meetings, term of service, and anticipated time requirement
- Talk to your SEAB's Sex Education Supervisor and chairs for specific information



## What is the formal process for approving content?

SEAB-recommended curricula, materials, and teaching methods used for HIV or sex education offered by a school district must go through the formal approval process:

The purpose of the hearings is to inform the public of the progress of the SEAB and to obtain input regarding proposed changes to sex education curriculum.

2 Public Hearings



School Board Approval



As a member, it is your responsibility to attend hearings and advocate for proposed changes



## How can I be an effective SEAB member?

Questions about anything in this guide? Contact us at [info@moash.org](mailto:info@moash.org)



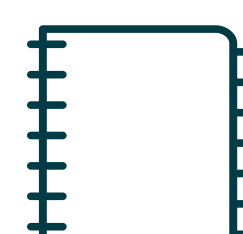
Be sure your SEAB approves evidence-based content



Advocate for inclusive content including LGBTQ+ identities and sexual violence



Survey community youth to determine content desires and needs



Establish a positive relationship with your district's school board

