

COUNSELING COMMUNICATION GUIDELINES

In implementing Board Policy 5030.2 staff shall observe the following guidelines when counseling students on sensitive issues, including pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and drug-related problems.

District employees shall:

1. Remain within the scope of their training and authority, bearing in mind issues relating to confidentiality as covered by the Education Code.
2. Respect the confidentiality of information offered by students. Furthermore, district employees shall listen to and treat students with concern and respect.
3. Strongly encourage students to seek parental assistance in the decision-making process to ensure student health, safety, and well-being.
4. Offer to sit in on parent conferences if students would feel more comfortable discussing the issues with a counselor present.
5. Refrain from advising students on specific courses of action as related to pregnancy alternatives.
6. Not arrange or provide transportation, make appointments for, or excuse students from school who wish to pursue community resources.
7. Provide an approved list of pregnancy counseling agencies when requested.