

**John Adams Academy**  
**Curriculum for the California Healthy Youth Act**  
**Parent Feedback, Questions & Answers**

We want to thank every parent and concerned community member that visited one of our campuses to review our proposed curriculum to meet the requirements of the California Healthy Youth Act (comprehensive sexual health and HIV prevention). Your feedback is valued and will help us improve and provide the best service we can offer the John Adams Academy community.

The most common feedback we received from parents was, “We approve of this curriculum.” Thank you for sharing this with us. Below are the most commonly asked questions and concerns we received, along with our feedback.

**QUESTIONS:**

**Q1: When will this curriculum be implemented?**

The JAA Board of Directors adopted a comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention curriculum on Thursday, November 14, 2019.

**Q2: How much time will be given for scholars to complete the material?**

Scholars will be able to work through the material from mid-September through mid-May (approximately 6 months).

**Q3: Which grades will this curriculum be used for?**

7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade

**Q4: Will this class be taught at school and will it be taught in a co-ed setting?**

No, we are not providing a class at school. Instead, all coursework will be completed at home under the supervision of a parent. Scholars that do not have access to a computer at home will be provided a means to complete the course during or after school on a computer located on campus.

**Q5: How will the curricular content be implemented?**

The site academic counselor will enroll all 7<sup>th</sup> and 10 grade scholars who have not previously opted out, into the online curriculum. The parents and their scholars will be given the login information for the program. Counselors will monitor each individual scholar’s progress and will encourage full completion of the material.

**Q6: Is there an exam to pass this course?**

No, this course will not have an exam. We will check to see that scholars have completed the material, but there is no final assessment. Completion of the curriculum will not affect grades or graduation.

**Q7: Will this course be graded?**

No, this is not an official course and it will not be graded.

**Q8: When can parents choose to opt their scholar(s) out?**

Parents may opt their scholar out at any time. [Click HERE](#) to access the form and send to [optout@johnadamsacademy.org](mailto:optout@johnadamsacademy.org) or bring to your front office.

**Q9: Once opted out, do parents need to opt out again each year?**

No, once a parent has opted out, the request will be honored each year going forward. Scholars will stay on the opt-out list until the academy receives written notice from the guardian stating otherwise.

**Q10: If I opted my scholar out, and I have changed my mind, how do I opt back in?**

Please notify us in writing (email or written note) if you no longer wish to opt your scholar out of the program and deliver your request to the front office of your campus or your campus administrator. Parents may make this request any time during the year.

**Q11: If I opt my scholar out, can I still access the curriculum to review at home?**

Unfortunately, no. We pay our curriculum provider a per user fee. If you would like to view or use the curriculum at home, do not opt out.

**Q12: Is the curriculum the same for both 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade scholars?**

Yes, the curriculum is the same for both 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade scholars.

**Q13: Is the online material the same as the paper material?**

Yes, the online material is the same as the paper material.

**Q14: Why are there missing units in the Health curriculum?**

John Adams Academy has worked with the curriculum provider to offer the minimum topics required by the California Healthy Youth Act. If parents would like to purchase the full online course, they may do so through us. Please contact the front desk or a school counselor if you are interested.

**Q15: Can we opt out of only certain sections of the material?**

No, we must provide the full curriculum presented to comply with CA law. However, it is up to parents to choose how much time their scholar spends in any particular unit of the course. Parents may choose to review topics lightly or provide more in-depth coverage than what is provided.

**Q16: Will the curriculum change from year to year?**

If CA law changes and requires new topics be provided, or if we find a better curriculum to meet our needs, we will update our offering. Parents will always have the option to review the material before their scholar is enrolled in the program.

**CONCERNS:**

**C1: Why doesn't this curriculum cover vaping, social media, chastity, divorce, pornography, sex trafficking, etc.?**

Our curriculum provides the minimum topics required to comply with the law. These topics are important to discuss and we encourage parents to discuss them with their scholars at home where each families values and expectations can be honored.

**C2: Why doesn't this course provide more pictures of (STDs, genitals, etc.)?**

Parents may supplement and add to the course material at home.

**C3: We want specific pictures (genitalia) or topics (abortion, contraception, pre-teen pregnancies, etc.) removed...**

If you do not want your scholar exposed to the material in this curriculum, please opt out of the program.

**C4: California law requires the curriculum to include transgender studies, etc. I did not see it in my review.**

This curriculum meets all standards required by the CA Healthy Youth Act.

**C5: Citations are referencing non-credible sources (e.g. TED talks, Wikipedia, BBC News, etc.). All sources cited should be from credible, non-political, educational or scientific resources.**

The curriculum we recommended to the board cites over 145 sources, mostly from recognizably credible scientific or educational resources. In almost all

cases, sources from non-scientific sources included in the curriculum are purely supplemental and is used to enliven and enrich the delivery of the content.

(Included: TED talks sourced twice, Wikipedia 8 times, BBC once, and YouTube four times. There is also a smattering of clips from popular t.v. shows including, "Everybody Loves Raymond," or, "Psych.")

**C6: We think this curriculum should be taught at school, not at home.**

The Academy's policy has been that discussions about sexual health are most appropriately between parents and scholars at home, where each family's values can be honored. In keeping with this position, the curriculum we have chosen is a collaborative, self-paced curriculum, provided in a manner for scholars to complete at home with a parent. Resources for scholars that do not have access to a computer at home will be made available to them during or after school.