**DELANO JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Cesar E. Chavez High School/Delano High School/Robert F. Kennedy High School**

**Department of State Requirements**

**Dear Parents/Guardians:**

**Consistent with the provisions of the California Education Code and with the Comprehensive Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Education Act (SB 71), your student will receive an opportunity to be informed and educated in health strategies relating to sexual and reproductive health, sexually transmitted diseases (STD’s)—including HIV/AIDS, teen pregnancy, and the prevention of the aforementioned in their one semester health class at their assigned school site. This communication is intended to review the course content relating to these subjects, and to provide official notification to you regarding your options as a parent.**

**The goal of our instruction relating to the above is to provide students with knowledge and decision-making skills necessary to protect themselves from untimely pregnancy and from sexually transmitted diseases. Participating in this instruction will help students to develop healthy attitudes concerning adolescent growth and development, body image, gender roles, sexual orientation, dating, marriage, and family.**

**Under the education code, instruction provided by classroom teachers and/or outside consultants relating to sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS prevention shall satisfy all of the following criteria:**

* **Be age appropriate.**
* **Be medically accurate and objective.**
* **Be available on an equal basis to all students, including English learners.**
* **Be appropriate for use with students of all races, genders, sexual orientations, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, and disabilities.**
* **Encourage students to communicate with his or her parents/guardians about sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS prevention.**
* **Teach respect for marriage and committed relationships.**
* **Teach that abstinence from sex is the lifestyle choice most likely to prevent pregnancy or the contraction of an STD.**
* **Provide information about the value of abstinence, and provide medically accurate information on all FDA-approved methods for preventing pregnancy and the contraction of an STD.**
* **Not teach or promote religious doctrine.**
* **Not reflect or promote bias against any person.**

**Education Code Section 51938 specifies the option of parents/guardians to excuse their students from all or part of the educational format regarding sexual and reproductive health, STD’s, teen pregnancy, and the prevention of the aforementioned, including the option to excuse their students from any assessments relating to the at education.**

**In addition, the education code requires that parents/guardians be notified of the following:**

* **All written and audio-visual materials used for sexual and reproductive health, sexually transmitted diseases (STD’s)—including HIV/AIDS, teen pregnancy, and their prevention aforementioned in their one semester health class will be provided by school district personnel.**
* **In addition to instruction provided by school district personnel, parents will be notified if, and which, a clinic would be giving instruction related to sexual and reproductive health.**
* **Parents have the right to request copies of the sections of the education code that pertain to sexual and reproductive health education and/or HIV/AIDS prevention education.**
* **Parents must be notified in advance in writing if students will participate in research involving tests, questionnaires, and/or surveys containing questions about student attitudes concerning or practices related to sexual behavior.**

**If you as a parent/guardian wish to exercise any of the options described above, your student(s) will not be subject to academic penalty or other disciplinary action. Alternative education activities will be made available to student(s) whose parents request that their child not participate in sexual and reproductive health education and/or HIV/AIDS prevention education. All questions and requests should be addressed directly to the site principal.**

**By signing below, you as a parent/guardian acknowledge receipt of this communication, and you give your consent for your student to participate in sexual and reproductive health education and HIV/AIDS prevention as described above.**

**Parent: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(SB 71 Parent Notification Form: February, 2006; updated September, 2015)**