

January 9, 2007

Ms. Navarro, Members of the Board, Dr. Weast:

This feels like *deja vu*. Once again we are looking at a curriculum that seeks to introduce young children to acts and lifestyles that are proven medically to be hazardous to one's health, both physically and emotionally. The "new" curriculum, as you like to call it, is flawed and continues to present a sugar-coated, biased viewpoint that can only be considered as yet another attempt to indoctrinate rather than educate.

The curriculum requires tolerance for different sexual preferences but refuses to include any negative factors with regard to being a homosexual or transgender. Homosexuality is not the same as heterosexuality and cannot be implied as such. Transgender is a mental disorder as defined by the American Psychiatric Association, yet you refuse to let this be known. Why do you insist on misleading vulnerable children?

The 10th grade condom DVD is again introducing anal and oral sex as safe when performed with a condom. Yet the lesson plan discusses only the data of pregnancy and STD rates for vaginal intercourse with a condom. A condom, if you don't know, is recommended by manufacturers for vaginal intercourse only-a little tidbit most members of the CAC did not want included in the lessons. You received a petition signed by 270 physicians here in Montgomery County stating the need for this information and yet you refused to acknowledge it.

It is a shame that after all the time and effort that has been put into redeveloping the health curriculum, this Board is still determined to meet the needs of the politically savvy gay advocacy groups and not the needs of those with whom you have been elected to watch over.

Michelle Turner
President, Citizens for a Responsible Curriculum