

Dear Parent/Guardians & Students

California State Education Code 51930 requires schools to participate in The California Healthy Youth Act (CHYA), which took effect January 1, 2016. All schools and school districts must provide students with integrated, comprehensive, accurate, and inclusive comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education, at least once in high school and once in middle school. The California Healthy Youth Act made other significant changes to previous Education Code (EC) requirements for both HIV prevention education and comprehensive sexual health education.

The purpose of the law is to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to:

- Protect their sexual and reproductive health from HIV and other sexually transmitted infections and from unintended pregnancy.
- Develop healthy attitudes concerning adolescent growth and development, body image, gender, sexual orientation, relationships, marriage, and family.
- Have healthy, positive, and safe relationships and behaviors.
- Promote understanding of sexuality as a normal part of human development; and
- To ensure pupils receive integrated, comprehensive, accurate, and unbiased sexual health and HIV prevention instruction and provide educators with clear tools and guidance to accomplish that end.

The students at The Charter School of San Diego will be receiving CHYA instruction during “Wellness Week”. The credentialed teachers and nursing staff will serve as the instructors during the separate middle and high school workshops that will be held two times a day during the week. As required by law, the parents must be notified more than 14 days in advance of the instruction, the parents/guardians can review the curriculum and be notified about their right to “opt out” of having the student receive instruction. The “opt-out” letter is also located on the school’s website: https://charterschool-sandiego.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/CSSD_CHYA-Parent-Passive-Consent-Letter_20210204.pdf

For additional information, please refer to the California Department of Education’s website: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/se/> and/or refer to the letter from the Superintendent of Education for more information <https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/r8/chyatltr.asp>.

Sincerely,

Rachel A. Thomas

Equity and Inclusion Officer, Altus Schools
rthomas@altusschools.net