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A Curriculum Framework: Components to Support Sexual Health Education

Component 1: Rationale and Intent

What: The overview for why your district is providing sexual health education.

Suggested information to include:

- Background information on your district's provision of sexual health education and any current or previous policies that are followed.
- Research on provision of sexual health education such as:
 - Douglas Kirby's [Emerging Answers 2007](#)
 - [Sexual Health Education: Research and Results](#)
 - [Sexual Health Education and Academic Success](#)
- Legislative information:
 - [Vermont Law 16 V.S.A. § 906 and § 131](#)
- Data: That supports reasoning for provision of sex ed.
 - [Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(YRBS\)](#)
 - Community Level Data from the Department of Health
 - School Climate
 - [School Health Profiles](#)

Example:

Connecticut State Department of Education: [Guidelines for the Sexual Health Education Component of Comprehensive Health Education](#)

Component 2: Vermont Education Quality Standards (EQS)

What: The information identified that is guiding the content, skills and assessment of your sexual health education program.

Suggested information to include:

- Curricula must aligned with the [Vermont Education Quality Standards](#)
- [National Health Education Standards: Achieving Excellence](#) - These standards address health content and skills to address from K-12th grade.
- [National Sexuality Education Standards](#) - These standards address specific sexual health content and skills to address from K-12th grade, via bands.

Component 3: Performance Indicators

What: The overarching goals of the sexual health education program, what skills and knowledge you hope your students will attain.

Resources to help development:

- Writing [SMART Goals](#)
- Student Data: Health, School Achievement, Community
- [Proficiency-Based Graduation Requirements](#)

Component 4: Scope and Sequence

What: Visual of what content and skills are being addressed at specific grades or by the end of grade bands.

Resources to help development:

- CDC's [Developing a Scope and Sequence for Sexual Health Education](#)
- Act 77 – Education Quality Standards (EQS)
- [National Health Education Standards](#) - These standards address health content and skills to address from K-12th grade.
- [National Sexuality Education Standards](#) - These standards address specific sexual health content and skills to address from K-12th grade, via bands.
- [Health Education Curriculum Analysis Tool \(HECAT\)](#)

Component 5: Curriculum and additional materials

What: The identified curriculum, materials, additional resources your school district has approved for use to teach sexual health education.

- Vermont Agency of Education has identified:
 - [Family Life and Sexual Health Education \(FLASH\)](#)
 - [Rights, Respect, Responsibility \(The 3R's\)](#)

The development of this resource is a result of a collaboration between Advocates for Youth and the Vermont Agency of Education.

