



News

from the MNPS Communications Office

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools

For Immediate Release

For more information, please contact:

Olivia Brown, MNPS
(615) 259-8405, olivia.brown@mnps.org
Noelle Mashburn, MNPS
Noelle.mashburn@mnps.org

Statement on Leadership Class at Hillsboro High School

NASHVILLE, TN (April 23, 2010) – Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools and Nashville CARES educators have reviewed concerns about a Leadership Class at Hillsboro High School and developed steps on how the organizations will best work together.

“Patrick Luther, the director of prevention education with Nashville CARES, and I discussed the MNPS Family Life and Sexuality Education policy, state law, and curriculum standards, as well as the recent events at Hillsboro High School,” said Tina Bozeman, health and wellness education coordinator for Metro Schools.

Leadership Class students at Hillsboro High School decided their service-learning project should help students make better decisions about sex and relationships and chose to participate in the Nashville CARES Survivor Club, which trains young people to become peer educators.

“This is the only time the Survivor Club has been offered in a classroom setting as part of a course,” said Luther. “In other schools, Survivor Club has been an after hours, off campus activity for students who participate with parental permission.” The Survivor Club training includes more explicit information than the district’s wellness classes. Wellness teachers are well-versed in district policies and state laws governing appropriate content.

Going forward, school counselors or Wellness teachers may refer students who wish to be involved in Survivor Club to Nashville CARES, where they can participate in a club setting outside of school. Nashville CARES will continue to present its district-approved HIV 101 and First Person programs in school Wellness classes.

“Nashville CARES will find a convenient, accessible location ensuring Hillsboro High School Leadership Class students who want to complete their Survivor Club training can do that off school property. We look forward to supporting Nashville’s future leaders as they make meaningful impacts today on issues important to them,” said Luther.

“We are confident we can work together in the future for the benefit of all of our students,” said Bozeman.

About Nashville CARES

Nashville CARES is a community-based, nonprofit organization that provides HIV prevention education programs to 50,000 adults and young people annually, and support services to 2,400 men, women and

children living with HIV/AIDS in Davidson County and sixteen surrounding counties. The agency is a non-profit charitable corporation. Visit www.nashvillecares.org for more information.

About Metro Schools

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools serve more than 76,000 students with the goal of being the first choice for families in Nashville and Davidson County. The governing body for MNPS is the Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County Board of Public Education, a nine-member group elected by residents of Metropolitan Nashville. For more information, please visit www.mnps.org.