

Opposition to SB438 Public Schools - Pregnant and Parenting Students

Key points of Opposition

HB401/SB438 creates a mandate on MSDE to establish policy which the local school systems (LSS) must implement concerning pregnant and parenting students. This will create an opening for outside agencies with controversial histories and services, such as Planned Parenthood, to enter the public schools and influence the implementation of any forthcoming policy. Pregnant minor children should not have access to a profit-motivated agency such as Planned Parenthood, which has been shown to encourage abortion and contraception all the while using loopholes in the law to keep these "services" from being disclosed to parents. This presentation is just a brief sampling of all the ways in which Planned Parenthood is already in schools.

**PLANNED PARENTHOOD
MARYLAND IS ALREADY IN
OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Education Programs

Each year, Planned Parenthood of Maryland provides educational programming for across the lifespan, throughout Maryland.

We serve youth, adults and parents with these programs in English and Spanish. Our programs are medically-accurate, engaging, comprehensive, developmentally appropriate and can be tailored to meet the specific needs of your organization.

We are experienced and trained educators who travel throughout the state of Maryland; as well as an educator located on the Eastern Shore (Caroline county). We offer comprehensive curricula & flexible scheduling.

For more information on our education programs, click on the links below:

[PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING PROGRAMS](#)

[FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION SERIES: ELEMENTARY-MIDDLE SCHOOL](#)

[HIGH SCHOOL SERIES](#)

[INDIVIDUAL SESSIONS](#)

For more information or to schedule, please contact:

Lindsay Roemer

Education Manager

PPMD ADVERTISES SEVERAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

SOURCE LINK:
[HTTPS://WWW.PLANNEDPARENTHOOD.ORG/PLANNED-PARENTHOOD-MARYLAND/EDUCATION-TRAINING/EDUCATION-PROGRAMS](https://www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-maryland/education-training/education-programs)

In addition to these recent statewide efforts, advocates have also worked to advance sex education at the local level. In 2015, the [U Choose Campaign](#), which included Baltimore City Schools, received a multi-million dollar grant to implement a comprehensive sex education program over a five year period, helping reduce the city's teen pregnancy rate by 61 percent. Prior to the campaign, the Baltimore City Health Department [reported](#) that less than 50 percent of Baltimore schools taught reproductive health education or sex education. In 2018, the grant was unexpectedly cut short [following federal cuts](#) to teen pregnancy prevention programs. The city of Baltimore sued [and won](#) a lawsuit to receive the additional funding.

KnowWhatUWant.org was developed by the Baltimore City Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative with additional information provided by the [Association of Reproductive Health Professionals](#), [Bedsider](#), [The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy](#), and [Planned Parenthood](#). All birth control photography is property of [bedsider.org](#) and used with permission.

Know What U Want is a project of the Baltimore City Health Department and The Family League of Baltimore with the support of Planned Parenthood of Maryland, The Maryland Institute College of Art, New Lens, The Abell Foundation, The Straus Foundation, The David and Barbara B. Hirschhorn Foundation and The Henry and Ruth Blaustein Rosenberg Foundation.

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PPMD OFTEN WORKS IN THE BACKGROUND TO GAIN ACCESS
TO PUBLIC SCHOOL PROGRAMS WHICH ARE HEAVILY
FOCUSED ON ABORTION-AS-A-CHOICE

SOURCES: (TOP)

[HTTPS://SIECUS.ORG/STATE_PROFILE/MARYLAND-STATE-
PROFILE/](https://siecus.org/state_profile/maryland-state-profile/)

(BOTTOM) [HTTPS://WWW.UCHOOSEBALTIMORE.ORG/](https://www.uchoosebaltimore.org/)



Hello SHAPE Maryland!

We are sharing this professional development opportunity with our members from an OUTSIDE AGENCY- Planned Parenthood Maryland and the Healthy Teen Network. Please see the information below and register using this [LINK](#) by January 23rd.

On **January 27 from 3:00-4:00pm**, Vanessa Geffrard of Planned Parenthood Maryland will be offering a training entitled **“Keeping It real and Professional: The Wondrous Landscape of Teaching Sex Ed: Part I.”**

KEEPING IT REAL AND PROFESSIONAL THE WONDROUS LANDSCAPE OF TEACHING SEX ED: PART 1



Date: 1/27/2021
Time: 3:00PM-4:00PM EST
RSVP: <http://bit.ly/keeping-it-real-part-1>
Facilitator: Vanessa Geffrard, MPH

Teaching sex ed can be rewarding...but also complicated! Human service professionals are often torn between the desire to connect with clients and teach from a non-judgmental lens. This training will focus on ways to build relationships with students in an authentic way, create a sex positive environment, while maintaining professional boundaries.

Upon completion participants will be able to:

- Explain the need for boundaries between teachers and students
- Explore personal and professional boundaries as it relates to sexuality and sex education and how it impacts our teaching style
- Describe two (2) strategies to create a sex positive classroom environment
- Identify techniques to build rapport with students
- Understand workplace policies/best etiquette regarding teaching sex education

Please RSVP by 1/23/2021

About Vanessa:

Vanessa Geffrard is a life affirming sex educator residing in West Baltimore. Vanessa serves as Vice President of Education and Training at Planned Parenthood of Maryland. In her role she leads the strategic direction of sex education programs across the state. Vanessa manages and implements middle school programming, adult trainings, and community workshops. She also trains and educates folks across the lifespan around sexual health topics such as consent and boundaries, sexually transmitted infection prevention, contraceptive methods, teen pregnancy and abortion stigma, healthy relationships, LGBTQ inclusion.

Vanessa is the founder of VagEsteem™, a workshop series and podcast that encourages good and healthy sex through courageous conversation about love and sexuality.



PPMD ALSO ACCESSES
THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BY PROVIDING
“PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT” TO
TEACHERS

THIS EMAIL WAS
RECENTLY
FORWARDED TO OUR
CHARLES COUNTY
CHAPTER FROM A
HEALTH AND PE
TEACHER IN THE
DISTRICT.

(SHAPE MARYLAND IS A HEALTH/PE
PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY
IN THE STATE)

KEEPING IT REAL AND PROFESSIONAL
PART II:

ANSWERING SENSITIVE
QUESTIONS



Date: 02/03/2021
Time: 3:00PM-4:00PM EST
RSVP: <http://bit.ly/keeping-it-real-part-2>
Facilitator: Vanessa Geffrard, MPH

Educators/facilitators are often torn between the desire to connect with students/youth while answering their questions comprehensively and the desire to maintain appropriate boundaries. This training will equip you with a formula to use when answering questions that will help you build relationships with youth/students in an authentic way, while still maintaining these boundaries and enhancing your communication and messaging skills.

AFTER
REGISTERING
FOR THE FIRST
CLASS,
PARTICIPANTS
WERE
ENCOURAGED
TO SIGN UP
FOR PARTS 2
AND 3.

Tonyé Fohsta-Lynch <Tonye@healthyteennetwork.org>

Wed, Feb 3, 4:26 PM ☆ ↩ ⋮

to Tonyé ▾

Hi All,

This is a reminder to register for the "Maryland Minor Consent Law and Confidentiality" training facilitated by Vanessa Geffrard, MPH of Planned Parenthood of Maryland if you have not already done so. This training occurs on **Wednesday, February 10th** from 3-4PM EST. **Registration is mandatory to attend and registration is capped at 40 participants.** To complete your registration click [here](#).

Note: When you complete your registration you will receive two emails, a confirmation receipt and an email with the zoom link. The email with the zoom link may go to your spam folder so please be sure to check. If you are not receiving any emails please let me know.

Please share this within your networks with anyone you feel would like to join this training.

We hope you are able to join and look forward to seeing you next week!

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

Best,

Tonyé Fohsta-Lynch

Tonyé Fohsta-Lynch, MPH (she, her, hers)

Capacity-Building Specialist

[Healthy Teen Network](#)

[Blog](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

Introducing [Zola: The HPV Healthbot!](#) Breaking down science with humor and honest answers.

THE 3RD SESSION WAS FOCUSED ON THE MINOR CONSENT LAW IN MARYLAND

- Participants were told not to be “gatekeepers” on information, even if it conflicts with the values of students’ families of origin.
- Participants were told to just “open the door” to the information, implying that this is a way to get around discussed conflicting values while in class. Teachers were encouraged to make broad general announcements about where abortion clinics are located in the community (but not where pregnancy resource centers are which might provide a pro-life/pro-adoption choice).
- Participants were then instructed to say, “You can access these services without parental consent.”
- Participants were also instructed to suppress their own values in the classroom if they disagree (morally) with abortion.
- Discussion was had that suggested that public school teachers whose values *do* conflict with abortion should perhaps no longer be teaching.

PARTICIPANTS (TEACHERS) WERE THEN INSTRUCTED ON THE LAWS

They were also instructed in the ways in which the abortionist can waive Minor Notification Laws under certain, broad, circumstances.

Parental Notification for Abortion

- Maryland law requires that **one parent or guardian be notified** before a minor has an abortion.
- The parent/guardian **does not need to consent (agree)** with the minor's choice, but does need to know the minor is planning to have an abortion.
- The **doctor performing the abortion can waive this requirement** in certain situations.

[JMd. HEALTH-GENERAL Code Ann. § 20-103, n.d.\]](#)

There is an imbalance of viewpoints in our public schools.

HB401/SB438 would make this imbalance permanent

As you can see from this very brief sampling, Planned Parenthood is already in our schools. They are focused on expanding abortion services, which they are profit-motivated to do. With the passage of HB401/SB438, the state would essentially be giving PPMD or similar agencies carte blanche to create school policy and implement it through their own educators/clinics/professionals.