



**Professional Development Workshop  
for RI Association of School Committees (RIASC):**

**SUPPORTING ADOLESCENT SEXUAL HEALTH  
FOR POSITIVE ACADEMIC OUTCOMES**

**Saturday, November 2, 2019 | 9:00-11:30am | Providence Marriott**

**GOAL:** To provide context and guidance to school committee members on the topic of adolescent sexual health (ASH) and its importance to students’ overall health and success in school and in life.

Research shows a direct link between adolescent health, including sexual health, and educational achievement. Supporting students with access to the knowledge and services they need to establish and maintain healthy behaviors is critical to reducing health disparities and encouraging positive academic outcomes. Healthy students are ready learners. **School committees provide critical support and leadership concerning sexual health policy, education and access to health services.**

<b>Timing</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Notes</b>
9:00-9:15am	<b>INTRO:</b> ASH defined	Tom Bertrand, <i>Chief, Center for HIV, Hepatitis, STDs, and TB Epidemiology, RI Department of Health</i>	Tom will define Adolescent Sexual Health and its many facets, and talk about its link to academic achievement
9:15-9:45am	<b>NEED:</b> Statistics	Dr. Philip Chan <i>Consultant Medical Director, Center for HIV, Hepatitis, STDs, and TB Epidemiology, RI Department of Health</i>	Dr. Chan will present information and statistics on ASH, both nationally and in Rhode Island; rates for sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in Rhode Island continue to climb to a near-crisis level
9:45-10:00am	<b>NEED:</b> ASH From Our Perspective	Youth group: STARS teens	Youth presenters will talk about focus group results and communicate to school committee members the general feeling among the youth participants that they do not receive enough (or any in some cases) ASH information in school
10:00-10:15a	<b>ROLE OF SCHOOLS:</b> Data Collection	Tara Cooper <i>YRBS Coordinator, RI Department of Health</i>	Tara will discuss the importance of data collection, particularly the Youth Behavior Risk Survey (YRBS) to assess adolescent behavioral health risks
10:15-10:45a	<b>ROLE OF SCHOOLS:</b> Access to services	Dr. Beata Nelken	Dr. Nelken will discuss the importance of access to sexual health services and their value to a school community in supporting the health and academic success of their students
10:45-11:00a	<b>ASSESSMENT OF DISTRICT ASH POLICY &amp; PRACTICES</b>	Jennifer Quigley Harris <i>RIHSC</i>	Jennifer will introduce a customized self-assessment tool (developed by RIHSC and adapted from the School Health Index) for RI districts to determine their particular situation with regard to policy and practices, and set goals
11:00am - ?	<b>Q&amp;A</b>	Panel	