

October 23, 2006

Dear Superintendent Weast and Board of Education

Parents want an agenda of health.

The Surgeon General has said, "*Condoms provide some protection, but anal intercourse is simply too dangerous to practice*"¹

75 physicians have signed an ongoing petition recommending discussion of the risks of anal sex in the proposed "Condom Use Lesson".

As an infectious disease specialist I and these physicians know that:

Condoms are not tested for anal intercourse.

Condoms tear, break and pop off more during anal than vaginal intercourse.

There is a markedly increased transmission of HIV during anal intercourse because of tears and bleeding.

The protection provided by condoms with anal intercourse is expected to be much worse than the known "85%" protection for HIV with vaginal intercourse.

The question is what will the students of MCPS know?

Will they be informed of the risks of anal intercourse in the "Condom Use Lesson" or will these risks be hidden and not discussed?

The lesson has heavily referenced the FDA Web site that contains the Surgeon General statement anal sex is too dangerous to practice¹ **but the lesson does not contain the Surgeon General's warning**

The lesson is based on The National Institutes of Health consensus conference which states "HIV/AIDShighest rate of transmission is through anal exposure²" **but this warning was also not included.**

Why should these warning be excluded from the lesson?

Physicians realize it is critical to warn about these health risks of anal sex and

parents want an agenda of health. MCPS must include these warnings in the “Condom Use Lesson”.

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CRC’s representative to the MCPS Citizens Advisory Committee
on Family Life and Human Sexuality

¹Condoms and Sexually Transmitted Diseases ...especially AIDS

<http://www.fda.gov/oashi/aids/condom.html>. 2005 revision

²2000 NIH Consensus Conference, Workshop Summary, Scientific Evidence on Condom Effectiveness for Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Prevention. p13

<http://www3.niaid.nih.gov/research/topics/STI/pdf/condomreport.pdf>
