A quality sexual health education program should:

• Protect the confidentiality of students while observing mandatory reporting laws
• Be developed and implemented with families and the community and respect their values
• Be developmentally appropriate
• Provide medically accurate information on contraception, condoms, and other measures that reduce the risk of pregnancy and of exposure to HIV, HPV and other STDs
• Provide skills-based training on the correct use of condoms
• Be engaging, interactive, and help students to develop skills in areas such as communication, making sound decisions, resisting negative peer and social pressure, and taking responsibility for one’s self and future opportunities
• Help students recognize the negative impact of alcohol and drug use on making healthy decisions and resisting negative peer and social pressures
• Help students understand the qualities of a healthy relationship, including the role of self-respect and respect for partners during dating relationships
• Help students understand the responsibilities of parenthood
• Help students analyze the influences of popular culture, media, and technology
• Test, quiz, or survey students about their knowledge of sexual health topics covered in the course
• Provide referrals to follow-up care as needed
• Be conducted in a safe, supportive, non-judgemental, and student-centered environment
• Be offered by instructors trained in sexual health education

For more information on how to bring age-appropriate sexual health education to your school, please contact School Health Connection at schoolhealth@lphi.org or (504) 301-9800.