

MASSACHUSETTS: Boston Schools Considering Free Condoms for High School Students

By Paul Eide

June 12, 2013

OposingViews.com (06.09.2013)

The Boston School Committee is studying a policy change that would offer condoms to Boston high school students to prevent teenage pregnancy and the spread of STDs. The policy change would stipulate that students must receive counseling about safe sex practices before receiving contraceptives. Currently, high schools that distribute condoms adhere to that practice. Jill Carter, executive director of health and wellness for Boston Public Schools, declared, We are not talking about bowls of condoms. We want to make condoms available with education and support, and we want them available equitably across the district and for students to feel comfortable that they can go to someone they trust. A student noted that many teens feel uneasy about purchasing condoms at stores and would prefer getting them free from school. She emphasized that protecting students should be the top priority. In 2012, the city of New York made the morning-after pill available in 13 public schools, and the Philadelphia school district installed free condom dispensers at approximately one-third of its high schools.

[See the topic on aegis.org](http://aegis.org)