



Dear Parents/caregivers

The New Jersey Student Learning Standards - Comprehensive Health and Physical Education were revised in 2020 to address the need for students to gain knowledge and skills in caring for themselves, interact effectively with others, and analyze the impact of choices and consequences. These revised standards will be implemented in the 2022-2023 school year. We value the importance of partnering with families as we educate students in the knowledge and skills they need in order to lead a healthy, active life.

All topics are taught in an age, grade and developmental manner. The Second Grade Curriculum will address the new standards:

2.1.2.SSH1: Discuss how individuals make their own choices about how to express themselves.

2.1.2.SSH2: Discuss the range of ways people express their gender and how gender-role stereotypes may limit behavior.

These particular lessons will be delivered by the School Counselor the month of May in each Grade 2 classroom separately. Should you have questions regarding this lesson please reach out to your School Counselor. Should you choose to opt your child out of these lessons, the paragraph below provides information on how to do this.

Although we strongly encourage families to have their student(s) participate in these essential health topics, we want to acknowledge that Parents/caregivers do have the option of excluding their child from any portion of sexuality/family life education instruction if it is in conflict with their conscience, morally, or religiously held beliefs. (*Please see the appropriate NJ Statute below)

If this is the case, please email your student's principal and the classroom teacher that is listed on their schedule in Genesis. Make sure to include the students, name, grade level and school to notify which topic(s) you are opting your student(s) out of. Students who are excused will be assigned to a separate learning area for the duration of those identified lessons

Section: 18A:35-4.7: Parent's statement of conflict with conscience: Any child whose parent or guardian presents to the school principal a signed statement that any part of the instructions in health, family life education or sex education is in conflict with his conscience, or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs shall be excused from that portion of the course where such instruction is being given and no penalties as to credit or graduation shall result therefrom.

Sincerely,

John Harding
District Supervisor of Health & Physical Education
South Brunswick Schools

