



Dear Parent/Caregiver

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.

The sixth-grade health course Human Growth & Development unit is comprised of these indicators:

- 2.1.8.PGD.1: Explain how appropriate health care can promote personal health.
- 2.1.8.PGD.2: Analyze how genetics and family history can impact personal health.
- 2.1.8.PGD.3: Describe the human reproductive systems, the external and internal body parts and their functions, and the natural variations that exist in human bodies.
- 2.1.8.PGD.4: Analyze the relationship between healthy behaviors and personal health.
- 2.1.8.PP.2: Summarize the stages of pregnancy from fertilization to birth.
- 2.1.8.PP.3: Identify prenatal practices that support a healthy pregnancy and identify where to find medically accurate sources of information about prenatal care.
- 2.1.8.CHSS.6: Develop an advocacy plan regarding a health issue and share this information in an appropriate setting.
- 2.3.8.HCDM.2: Determine the role of genetics in being susceptible to disease and health conditions and identify the types of behavior that might reduce the risk factors

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 health education 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. The health teacher will then contact you to discuss the lesson or unit portions that the student will be opted 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