



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 Family Life and Relationships health unit is comprised of these indicators:

- 2.1.8.PGD.1: Explain how appropriate health care can promote 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.1: Describe pregnancy testing, the signs of pregnancy, and pregnancy options, including parenting, abortion, and adoption.
- 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.PP.4: Predict challenges that may be faced by adolescent parents and their families.
- 2.1.8.PP.5: Identify resources to assist with parenting.
- 2.1.8.EH.2: Analyze how personal attributes, resiliency, and protective factors support mental and emotional health.
- 2.1.8.SSH.3: Demonstrate communication skills that will support healthy relationships
- 2.1.8.SSH.4: Compare and contrast the characteristics of healthy and unhealthy relationships.
- 2.1.8.CHSS.8: Analyze difficult situations that might lead to feelings of sadness, anxiety and depression and identify individuals, agencies or places in the community where assistance may be available.

There have been no changes to the delivery of this particular unit in 6th grade Health.

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. 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,