

PARENT/GUARDIAN LETTER

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Health is a semester course required for all 8th grade students. It is designed to help students make independent, informed decisions concerning their physical, mental, and social well-being. It encourages students to discover their capabilities and responsibilities for developing attitudes and patterns of behavior that promote a full and satisfying life.

Your child has been placed in one of the following health classes according to the registration documents submitted to the school. If you are unsure which class your child has been assigned, please refer to their class schedule. The following description from the 8th Grade Health Curriculum concerning the "Growth, Development, and Family Life" unit is provided below:

PHILOSOPHY 1 (P1): Student initiated questions of a "sensitive" nature will be referred home. The only contraception information is a general statement that informs students of the limited effectiveness of contraceptives in preventing pregnancy.

PHILOSOPHY 2 (P2): Student initiated questions will be answered in a factual, medically accurate, objective, and developmentally appropriate manner. Methods of birth control will be discussed as they pertain to risk and effectiveness. No demonstrations will be permitted.

**Please refer to district documents available online for further information regarding course content, District Policy 602.40, and the "Opt-Out Policy" available to students enrolled in the P1 course. This information is also available for download from my class website. If you would like to preview materials used during the HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections, and sex education unit, please contact me directly at the email address below. These materials are available anytime.*

Grades (including late work) are updated on PowerSchool daily. Please contact the counseling office to obtain your child's username and password. Grades appearing as a "0" are assignments that have not been turned in.

Course topics and assignments are available through the school's website. Directions for completing assignments are available through both PowerSchool and the school's website. Each assignment is hyperlinked to include a detailed description of the assignment along with specific instructions and/or handouts for completion. Very few traditional "worksheet" style assignments are used throughout the semester.

Note: Self-Starters are daily journal questions completed at the beginning of the period daily and turned in on the last day of the week (typically, Friday). These questions are written on the board daily, available on the school's website, and written on a clipboard kept in the classroom for students to use for make-up.

Students are encouraged and welcome to come in at lunch for extra help when needed.

Issues discussed in health can be sensitive to children and parents alike. I would invite you to read through the course syllabus which was provided to your child during the first week of class. Materials used during the gender-separate unit are available for you to preview at anytime. If you would like more information, or have any questions, please feel free to call or email: wilper.john@westada.org.

Please fill-out the following information and return it with your child. Thank you.

HEALTH EDUCATION

PARENT/GUARDIAN LETTER

NAME OF STUDENT: _____

NAME OF PARENT/GUARDIAN: _____

CLASS PERIOD: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____

HEALTH PHILOSOPHY: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN EMAIL: _____
