



**MOUNT OLIVE TOWNSHIP
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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August 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Last year, the Mount Olive Township School District revised our Physical Education/Health curriculum to align to the [2020 Comprehensive Health and Physical Education standards](#).

The Mount Olive Township Board of Education approved the curriculum at the Monday, November 21, 2022 board meeting. Steps to access the curriculum can be viewed [here](#).

The State of New Jersey affords parents and/or guardians the option to opt-out of lessons that conflict with their conscience in the areas of health, family life education or sex education (see below). It is expected that students who are opted out will participate in physical education classes on those designated lessons. However, this may change based on the volume of students being opted out in the particular grade level/building. Students may be required to work in another location because the gymnasium is unable to accommodate the volume of students. Your building principal will communicate if changes need to be made.

*N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.7 **Parent's Statement of Conflict with Conscience** The NJDOE recognizes and respects that some families prefer to have these conversations privately. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.7, any child whose parent or guardian presents to the school a signed statement that any part of instruction in health, family life education, or sex education is in conflict with his or her conscience or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs shall be excused from that portion of the course.*

Topics that families sometimes prefer to opt out include family planning, reproduction, gender and puberty related lessons. In an effort to identify these lessons, please review the lesson plans [here](#). If you and your family chooses to opt-out of your child from these lessons, please complete this [Google Form](#). The form must be completed separately for each child by Friday, September 8, 2023. If there are additional topics you would like to discuss, please contact Mr. Matthew Robinson (matthew.robinson@motsd.org).

Please understand that while we are sharing our planned lesson plans for the topics listed above, our teachers must be responsive to the needs of the students in each particular classroom. Therefore, there may be times when teachers may deviate from the planned lesson. However, the identified standards will continue to be the focus of the designated lesson.

As always, please let me know if you have any further questions or concerns.

Warm regards,

Matthew Robinson
Acting Assistant Superintendent