

Dear Parent/Guardian.

In the Scappoose School District, we believe comprehensive health education is a vital component in preparing students for success in our rapidly changing world. Over the course of the school year, your student will be engaging in age-appropriate comprehensive health and human growth and development instruction in accordance with the <u>Oregon Health Education Standards</u>. For the safety and well-being of students, our role as public educators is to provide medically accurate and balanced information that is age-appropriate, inclusive of all students, and free of fear or shame. The topics addressed in an age-appropriate manner include healthy relationships, human sexuality, disease prevention including HIV/AIDS, and sexual abuse prevention (Erin's Law). Instruction will be taught by the classroom teacher within the regular class setting.

The Great Body Shop (GBS), published by The Children's Health Market, is the district-adopted K-6 curriculum used to teach the Oregon Health Education Standards. It offers skills-based instruction that addresses physical, social, emotional, and mental health. Comprehensive human growth and development instruction is age-appropriate, medically accurate, and relevant for all students. Additional resources have also been selected to teach and reinforce the Oregon Health Education Standards. Please view the SSD Comprehensive Health-Education K-6 Scope and Sequence document to see which units and lessons will be taught at each grade level.

Parent Preview and Opt-Out Process

Scappoose honors the role of the family/guardian as the primary teacher and respects families' rights to be fully informed and involved in choosing what is best for their own students. In accordance with Oregon's laws, parents/guardians are provided the opportunity to preview all lessons and materials that will be used to teach comprehensive human growth and development and may choose to opt their students out of units of instruction.

Your teacher is your first point of contact to review materials. They initiate the GBS Family Portal; a digital tool that makes components of the program accessible at home. If you would like a deeper review beyond the Family Portal and conversations with your teacher, please submit the Scappoose Request to Preview Elementary Human Growth and Development Health Materials Google form or access a paper copy of this document from your school office. Materials are available to preview at all elementary schools, the district office, as well as online. A teacher or administrator will be available to discuss any of the content that is shared and answer any questions that may come up.

After reviewing the curriculum, if you choose to have your student opt out of the <u>specific units</u> of instruction, please submit the <u>2023-24: Scappoose Elementary Human Growth and Development Student Opt-Out Notice</u> Google form (one submission per student) or access a paper copy (one copy per student) of this document from your school office. Parents/Guardians opting their student out of instruction will engage in a conversation with a building administrator and/or classroom teacher to determine how to best support their student in a respectful, non-judgmental way.

The Request to Preview Elementary Human Growth and Development Health Materials form must be completed by: **Monday, January 22, 2024**

The Scappoose Elementary Human Growth and Development Student Opt-Out form must be submitted to the school by: **Monday, February 5, 2024**

Sincerely,

Jen Stearns; Director of Student Achievement

References:

Oregon Health Education Standards: https://www.oregon.gov/ode/educator-resources/standards/health/Documents/2016ORHEStandards.pdf