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Notice of Intent to Provide Child Sexual Abuse and Dating & Sexual Violence Prevention Education

March 20, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Ohio legislators recently enacted Senate Bill 288 which updated the prescribed curriculum for health education, adding requirements related to child sexual abuse prevention, dating violence prevention, and sexual violence prevention. This law requires schools to provide developmentally appropriate instruction in sexual abuse prevention to students in grades K-6 on an annual basis. Schools are also required to provide instruction in dating and sexual violence prevention to students in grades 7-12 during their health education.

In accordance with these state requirements, a curriculum has been chosen that is compliant with Section 3313.60 of the Ohio Revised Code, and is "leveled" to address this sensitive topic in a way that is developmentally appropriate for each grade level. Trained staff will deliver the required instruction to students in grades K-6 starting the week of April 8th. Students in 9th grade will receive instruction during their English classes after state testing is complete.

Curriculum Review and Opt-Out Procedures

Under state law (ORC 3313.60), parents and legal guardians have the right to review the curriculum material related to child sexual abuse and sexual violence prevention. The curriculum we have chosen is called "Speak Up" developed by the Foundation United. These materials are copyrighted, however you may review curriculum materials by submitting a written request to your student's school counselor. Upon receiving the request, the parent or guardian will be allowed to examine curriculum materials at the school within 48 hours.

There will also be a parent information night on April 2nd at 6pm in the Elementary Commons. Trained staff will be present to answer your questions and the curriculum materials will be available for you to examine.

You may exempt your child from participating in any part of the district's child sexual abuse prevention and sexual violence prevention education by signing and returning the attached opt out form no later than Friday, April 5th, 2024. Your child's teacher may assign alternative lessons or activities unrelated to this topic for them to complete. Your child will not be subject to any disciplinary action, academic penalty, or other sanction.

If you have any questions about the curriculum and/or materials, please do not hesitate to contact your student's school.

Sincerely,

Melissa White, Elementary School Counselor

Karen Barta, Middle/High School Counselor

Cindy Truex, K-12 Social Worker

Hannah Art, K-12 Social Worker (Tues, Thurs, Fri)

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