



SHEBOYGAN AREA — SCHOOL DISTRICT —

Dear High School Parent or Guardian,

The Sheboygan Area School District offers Human Growth and Development instruction within the specific high school curriculum listed below. Although not part of the curriculum, issues relating to sexuality may also arise in other classes (history, current events, etc.). These will be dealt with in a brief manner consistent with the course curriculum.

While the Human Growth and Development curriculum is intended for all students, no student is required by law to participate. Parents have the option, per Wisconsin State Statute 118.019, to request alternate lessons. If you do not want your child to receive instruction in one or more of these areas, you may opt your child out of specific lessons or the entire unit by contacting your child's teacher. Students not participating in the standard curriculum will receive learning opportunities specific to their course that are unrelated to Human Growth and Development.

The following courses at North and South High Schools may include the indicated Human Growth and Development topics.

Health

Human Growth and Development is an approximately 2-week unit in the high school Health courses at North and South High Schools. The entire unit is available on the Sheboygan Area School District website for your review.

<https://www.sheboygan.k12.wi.us/enroll/register/human-growth-and-development>

Psychology

The course description handbook states that the curriculum includes “developmental psychology from infancy through old age.” The following topics are often included as part of the class: sexuality and love, infancy and childhood, adolescence and adulthood, social cognition and interpersonal attraction.

Sociology

The course description handbook states that as part of the study of sociology, the curriculum includes discussion of socialization and gender roles. Specifically, part of the course covers how we learn what is feminine and masculine and the corresponding appropriate behaviors.

Social Issues

The course covers current and significant problems found in American society. Because the class is contemporary, the course description handbook states that “topics will vary to allow for maximum relevancy.” While we have tried to address the general topics covered in class, new issues may surface or



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new aspects of an issue may emerge that necessitate inclusion in the course curriculum. The following specific topics may be covered, and other related topics may also be discussed:

- Human sexual behavior: biological and cultural influences
- Social issues related to sexuality: rape, sexual violence, sex in the media, and unwanted pregnancy (discussion on these topics focuses on how these behaviors are harmful and to be avoided).
- Sex role socialization
- Sexism and feminism

Biology

- Reproduction
- Chromosomes and Genetics
- Mitosis and Meiosis

The curriculum and instructional materials are available for inspection. If you wish to preview and discuss these materials, you can arrange to do so by calling the school that your child attends and making an appointment with your child's teacher.

North High (459-3600)

South High (459-3637)