



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Florida Statutes require that all students have Comprehensive Health Education in grades K-12. Florida State Statute Title XLVIII, Chapter 1003 (Public Education K-12), Part IV, section 42 (2N) requires: Comprehensive health education that addresses concepts of community health; consumer health; environmental health; family life, including an awareness of the benefits of sexual abstinence as the expected standard and the consequences of teenage pregnancy; mental and emotional health; injury prevention and safety; nutrition; personal health; prevention and control of disease; and substance use and abuse. The health education curriculum for students in grades 7 through 12 shall include a teen dating violence and abuse component that includes, but is not limited to, the definition of dating violence and abuse, the warning signs of dating violence and abusive behavior, the characteristics of healthy relationships, measures to prevent and stop dating violence and abuse, and community resources available to victims of dating violence and abuse. Additionally, Florida State Statute Title XLVIII, Chapter 1003 (Public Education K-12), Part IV, section 42 (2J) requires instruction regarding the true effects of all alcoholic and intoxicating liquors and beverages and narcotics upon the human body and mind.

Comprehensive Health Education in Lee County, through school, parents, and community involvement, seeks to develop in students an understanding of the body's natural potential for health. Through Health Education, students learn ways to prevent or avoid threats to that potential, and to adopt a lifestyle that maintains health throughout life. Good health habits/behaviors increase the chances for personal success. Poor health habits/behaviors (drug and alcohol use, lack of appropriate and accurate knowledge, etc.) prevent youth from acquiring basic skills, having strong self-concepts, and ultimately, meeting their potential. Positive lifestyles and good healthy habits are basic to personal growth and development.

Statute 1003.42(3) provides that "Any student whose parent makes written request to the school principal shall be exempted from the teaching of reproductive health or any disease, including HIV/AIDS, its symptoms, development, and treatment. A student so exempted may not be penalized by reason of that exemption. Course descriptions for comprehensive health education shall not interfere with the local determination of appropriate curriculum which reflects local values and concerns."

By signing below, you are requesting that your child **not participate** in the teaching of reproductive health or any disease, including HIV/AIDS, its symptoms, development, and treatment.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student Name (Please Print)