

FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION

The Board of Education accepts its responsibility for participating, in full partnership with parents and community institutions, in the education of the children of this district toward self-knowledge and an appreciation of the responsibilities of interpersonal relationships and family life.

The Superintendent shall develop and recommend to the Board a coordinated, sequential family life education program in grades kindergarten through 8. The program shall include instruction in human development, sexuality, and reproduction and in the physical, mental, emotional, social, economic, and psychological aspects of interpersonal relationships. It shall provide pupils with an opportunity to acquire knowledge that will support the development of responsible personal behavior and responsible family relationships. Instructional units shall be appropriate to the age, maturity, growth, and development of pupils.

The program shall be taught by appropriately certified district personnel and may utilize the contributions of such community resource persons as parents, physicians, the clergy, attorneys, school social workers, school psychologists, and law enforcement personnel. The Board encourages the utilization of teachers in other disciplines through an interdisciplinary approach. The Superintendent shall provide appropriate inservice education to teachers responsible for family life instruction.

No family life program shall be initiated that has not been formally adopted by this Board and has not demonstrably been developed through appropriate consultation and in participation with teachers, school administrators, parents and guardians, secondary school pupils, physicians, members of the clergy, and other community members. Such consultation shall continue, as appropriate, as the program is continually evaluated and revised. A copy of the complete district family life education curriculum and all instructional materials shall be available for public inspection in each school in the district prior to its use in any classroom. The parent or guardian of each pupil enrolled in the program shall receive annually an outline of the curriculum and a list of instructional materials for that pupil's grade along with notice of the availability for review of the complete curriculum and all materials.

Any pupil whose parent or guardian presents to the school principal a signed statement that any part of the instruction in family life education is in conflict with his or her conscience or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs shall be excused from the portion of the course in which such instruction is being given; no such pupil shall be penalized by loss of credit otherwise earned.

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.6

N.J.A.C. 6:4-1.5(e)1; 6:29-7.1

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