

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The NJ Department of Education has revised the New Jersey Learning Standards in Comprehensive Health and Physical Education. We invite you to examine and discuss this information with your child prior to the instructional units at school. Specifically, the content related to family life education. The curriculum is available on the <https://www.hhschools.org/> website under the Central Office label. You can also contact your child's principal to review Health lessons that will be taught.

The Hasbrouck Heights District acknowledges that parents/guardians are the primary family life educators for their child/children and we are committed to partnering with you to provide supplementary resources to support your role. We want to acknowledge that **Parents/Guardians do have the option of excluding their child from any portion of sexuality/family life education instruction if it is in conflict with their conscience, morality, or religious beliefs.** (Please see the appropriate NJ statute below) If this is the case, please fill out the exclusion form below and send it to your child's principal. Students who are excused will be assigned to a separate classroom for the duration of those identified lessons.

Section: 18A:35-4.7: Parent's statement of conflict with conscience: *Any child whose parent or guardian presents to the school principal a signed statement that any part of the instruction in health, family life education or sex education is in conflict with his/her conscious, or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs shall be excused from the portion of the course where such instruction is being given and no penalties as to credit or graduation shall result therefrom.*

Sincerely,

Matthew Helfant

Dr. Matthew Helfant
Superintendent of Schools

Sexuality/Family Life Education Exclusion Form

I wish for my child, _____, to be excluded from the following topics of the family life/sexuality education unit due to moral, ethical and/or religious beliefs:

- Introduction to values
- Relationships
- What is sexuality
- Marriage, parenthood, and family living
- Violence in relationships
- Sexually transmitted infections
- Pregnancy and childbirth
- Birth control methods
- Personal wellness and awareness
- LGBTQ unit

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Principal _____