

September 2009

Dear Parents:

New Jersey Law requires that Family Life Education be included in the instructional program of all public schools. Three topical categories have been identified in the mandate: human growth and development; interpersonal relationships; and responsible personal behavior.

The Harmony Township School offers a comprehensive health curriculum in grades 1-8. Being Healthy by HBJ is the series in use. The "Alert" drug education curriculum is also utilized in 6th - 8th grades.

In addition, students in grade five attend one sex-segregated class to learn about pubertal changes of their particular gender; sixth grade students are taught basic anatomy and physiology of the male and female reproductive systems in sex-segregated classes; the eighth grade students will receive several class periods of instruction in drug education and HIV/AIDS prevention. All grades may be scheduled to attend one of the family life education programs offered by the Weller Center for Health Education.

You may contact the school to inspect any of the materials that are used in our Family Life Education classes. We also have Weller Center brochures available, if you would like to read a synopsis of the program for your child's grade level.

Parents who believe that any part of the instruction in Family Life Education is in conflict with their conscience, or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs, may excuse their child from that portion of instruction and no penalties as to credit or graduation shall result therefrom. (NSSA 18A35-4.6 et seq) Therefore, if you do not wish for your child to participate in any or all of the instruction, please indicate so below.

Return the signed form to your child's homeroom teacher or to the school nurse.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call the school office at (908) 859-1001.

Jill Broschious, School Nurse

Harmony Township School

Family Life Education 2009 - 2010

Exclusion Request

Please detach and return this portion to your child's homeroom teacher by September 8, 2009
ONLY...if you want your child excluded from programs.

Please excuse _____, Grade _____ from the Family Life Education unit/s of the health education program checked below:

() Human Growth & Development () Interpersonal Relationships () Responsible Personal Behavior

Parent Signature/Date

Telephone Number