

Sample Parent/Family Letter
Comprehensive Sexual Health Education Requirements

Dear Parents and Families,

We'd like to inform you of education requirements for schools related to sexual health education and how this affects your child's instruction. In 2020 the Washington State Legislature passed a new requirement ([RCW 28A.300.475](#)) that all schools provide comprehensive sexual health education.

Comprehensive sexual health education is defined in the law as instruction about human development and reproduction that takes place over time and is age-appropriate and inclusive of all students.

Our district will continue to make the decision about what curriculum and educational materials we use for sexual health instruction. There is not one single curriculum required for use in Washington schools.

Based on the law, students in grades K–3 will receive social emotional learning. There is no sexual health content required for students in grades K–3. Social emotional learning is learning about respectful communication, healthy friendships, respecting personal space, and managing emotions.

Students in grades 4 or 5 will receive sexual health education at least once. Instruction on human growth and development (puberty) generally begins in 5th grade.

Older students will receive age-appropriate information about human growth and development and the reproductive system, healthy relationships, consent, abstinence, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and pregnancy prevention methods. We will provide instruction at least twice in grades 6–8 and at least twice in grades 9–12.

You will be able to opt your child or children out of instruction with a written request, and you will be able to review our sexual health curriculum prior to instruction taking place.

For more information about RCW 28A.300.475 and its requirements, please visit the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) website: [Sexual Health Education \(ospi.k12.wa.us\)](#)

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

School Principal/District Superintendent