**Autrey Mill Middle School**

“Preparing Today’s Students for Tomorrow’s Challenges”

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Dear Parents,

The Georgia State Board of Education has mandated that all school systems include human sexuality education in grades K-12 as part of a comprehensive health education plan. HIV/AIDS education is also mandated by the board.

The Fulton County Schools will offer human sexuality education and AIDS education units in the required health course taught in grades 6, 7 and 8. Our school system believes that all students should have access to factually accurate and appropriate information about these topics. Students who are armed with the facts are better able to make good, healthy decisions. We also know that abstinence from sexual activity is best for school-aged children. All instruction in this unit is prefaced by this fact. However, the instruction that occurs in our schools should complement what is being taught at home. Your values and expectations should be made very clear to your children.

There are specific required objectives that are covered in these units at each grade level. The objectives address many issues; among them are human physiology and puberty, how we perceive ourselves and our roles, recognizing and communicating our feelings, making decisions, sexually-transmitted diseases and their prevention including HIV/AIDS, birth control, the changing family, child-birth and parenting and teenage pregnancy. A copy of the objectives for each grade will be sent with this letter.

For this unit, there is a health textbook and supplemental material about human sexuality. Materials that are used in class are available for viewing at your child’s school. Please contact the health teacher to arrange a time to see these materials. Also, schools will have curriculum materials available for viewing at a designated parent formation meeting; check with the school administration for details on this meeting.

By state law, it is your right to remove your minor child from the sex education portion of his/her health class. If you choose to exempt your child, an alternate assignment will be given. **If you DO NOT want your child to participate in the human sexuality portion of his/her health class, please indicate exemption by checking NO. If you would like your child to participate in this segment, please indicate by checking YES. Please print your child’s name and sign on the line provided.**

Sincerely,

Principal

**YES \_\_\_\_\_\_ My child has permission to participate in the human sexuality portion of health education.**

**NO \_\_\_\_\_\_ I prefer that my minor child be removed from the human sexuality portion of health education.**

**Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Sixth Grade:

**Topics covered during Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS:**

 Describe and demonstrate appropriate ways to express and deal with emotions and feelings

 Summarize the benefits of talking with trusted adults about feelings

 Demonstrate effective communication skills to express feelings appropriately and maintain healthy relationships

 Demonstrate the ability to use self-control

 Explain how HIV and common STI’s are transmitted

 Summarize and label male and female reproductive body parts and functions

**Vocabulary:**

Anatomy Abstinence Persuasion Virus

Bacteria Self-control Communication skills Healthy relationships

Puberty Male anatomy Female anatomy HIV

STI Ovulation Ovaries Uterus

Urethra Epididymis Seminal Vesicles Ovum (Egg Cell)

Fertilization Fallopian Tubes Cervix Penis

Prostate Gland Cowper’s Gland Pubic Bone Menstruation

Vagina Testes/Testicles Vas Deferens Sperm Cell

Seventh Grade:

**Topics covered during Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS:**

 Describe healthy ways to express affection, love, friendship and concern.

 Describe effective strategies for dealing with difficult relationships with family members, peers, boyfriends or girlfriends.

 Analyze the risks of impulsive behavior.

 Describe conception and its relationship to the menstrual cycle.

 Describe the signs and symptoms of common STI’s.

 Describe how personal and family values influence decisions about sexual behaviors and relationships.

 Describe a variety of external influences, such as parents, the media, culture, peers & society that affect sexual decision making & sexual behavior.

 Demonstrate how to communicate clear expectations, boundaries, and personal safety strategies.

 Summarize the benefits of sexual abstinence.

**Vocabulary:**

Abstinence Impulsive behavior Assertive Healthy relationships Contraceptive

Sexual abuse Values External influences Boundaries Semen

Goals Sexual behaviors Conception Menstrual cycle Vaginal fluids

Common STI’s Premarital Barrier methods Gonorrhea

Syphilis Chlamydia HPV HIV/AIDS

Herpes Hepatitis Sterility PID

Eighth Grade:

**Topics covered during Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS:**

 Compare and contrast healthy and unhealthy relationships

 Explain the qualities of a healthy dating relationship

 Describe situations that could lead to pressure for sex and strategies to avoid them

 Explain why individuals have the right to refuse sexual contact

 Recognize techniques that are used to coerce or pressure someone to have sex

 Describe the relationship between using alcohol and other drugs and sexual risk behaviors

 Explain the short and long-term consequences of HIV and STI’s, and summarize which can be cured and which can be treated

 Describe why sexual abstinence is the safest, most effective risk avoidance method of protection from HIV and other STI’s & pregnancy

 Demonstrate the ability to access appropriate community resources about puberty, sexual health, and family relationships

 Identify verbal and nonverbal communication that constitutes sexual harassment

 Explain the possible consequences of early sexual behavior and the emotional, social and physical benefits for delaying behavior

 Plan strategies for maintaining sexual abstinence and explain how early sexual behavior can affect achieving long-term goals

 Demonstrate ways to encourage friends to remain sexually abstinent or return to abstinence if sexually active

 Demonstrate ways to communicate the benefits of protecting oneself from pregnancy and infections from HIV and other STI’s

**Vocabulary:**

Abstinence Self-respect Responsibility Emotional consequences

Sexual harassment Chlamydia Gonorrhea HPV (Human Papilloma Virus)

Genital Herpes Trichomoniasis HIV AIDS

Pregnancy Contraceptive methods Healthy relationships Self-discipline

Assertive Sterility/Infertility Syphilis Hepatitis B/C PID