



July 22, 2021

Dear Ringwood School Community,

Thank you so much to everyone who tuned into the town hall on the curriculum changes. If you missed it, you can view the [Zoom recording by clicking this hyperlink](#).

Anyone with internet access is welcome to explore Ringwood's curricular documents. These can be read by accessing the Atlas Curriculum Public Site:

<https://ringwoodschoools-public.rubiconatlas.org/Atlas/Public/View/Default>

One of the topics covered was the parental options available in the sexual education elements in our health curricula. This is in accordance with NJ Statute 18A:35-4.7: *Parent's statement of conflict with conscience*. This statute states:

Any child whose parent or guardian presents to the school principal a signed statement that any part of the instructions in health, family life education or sex education is in conflict with his conscience, or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs shall be excused from that portion of the course where such instruction is being given and no penalties as to credit or graduation shall result therefrom.

These units can be found at the below links for the respective grade levels. The units are noted with "Parent Option" or "Parent Opt" in the unit title.

Grade 2	Social and Sexual Health - Parental Option
Grade 5	Social, Sexual Health, & Relationships- Parent Opt
Grade 6	Unit 1 - Emotional & Social Health - Parent Option Unit 4 - Personal Health & Development -Parent Opt
Grade 7	Unit 1 - Mental Health - Parent Option
Grade 8	Unit 1 - Mental Health - Parent Option Unit 4-Human Reproduction, Sexual Health-Parent Opt

Please review these units soon so that when we open Realtime, parents can answer the Realtime Parent Survey question regarding these units. Please further note the grade levels where these standards will be covered, as they are not covered in Kindergarten, and grades 1, 3, and 4. This aligns with the grade bands in which the standards are written.

As always, I encourage people to reach out to me if they have any questions or comments. My email and phone number are above.

Sincerely,


Nicholas Bernice, Ed.D.