

Spring 2016

Dear 7th grade Science Parent,

Beginning this week, 7th grade science classes will be studying the subject of human growth and reproduction. The content of the course has been carefully planned and is designed for the comprehension and maturity level of your child. A list of objectives will be posted on our science site under Chapter 19 material (chapter 20 in the new textbook). In general, the course will include information about:

- Stages of growth from birth to adulthood
- Bodily changes that occur during puberty
- Parts and functions of both male and female reproductive systems
- Processes of fertilization, pregnancy, and childbirth
- Responsibilities associated with growth and development.

The curriculum is designed to promote sexual abstinence as the best decision young people can make for themselves. Human sexuality encompasses all aspects of the self – biological, psychological, sociocultural and ethical. Sexual feelings and thoughts are a normal part of human experience. Young people need to learn about sexuality in a positive way and acquire the skills necessary for emotional growth and maturation before making any commitment to a sexually involved relationship. A sexually abstinent lifestyle during adolescence gives students more personal freedom and time to define who they are and who they want to become.

The combination of the information that will be presented and open discussion of student questions will do much to correct any misinformation students may have about this subject. As a parent, you may wish to further clarify or elaborate on topics that your child may ask about at home. Also, as your child grows and develops, you may wish to continue educating him or her on the facts and responsibilities associated with human growth and reproduction.

The materials from our unit are available at school for your review. If you are at all uncomfortable with our teaching this material to your child, please come and review the materials and discuss them with our administration. If you then wish to exclude your child from these class days, we will provide alternative assignments.

If you are comfortable with the materials in this unit, please sign the attached permission slip and **have your child return it no later than Friday, April 29.**

We look forward to working with you to prepare your child for a healthy, successful future.

Sincerely,

7th grade science department

My child, _____, has my permission to be involved in the human reproduction unit.

Parental Signature: _____

Date: _____