Reproductive Health & Safety

August 29, 2022

Dear Parent or Guardian,

For our future unit of study in Healthful Living we will be discussing Reproductive Health & Safety (RHS).

Reproductive Health & Safety:

- ❖ Teaches that abstinence from sexual activity outside of marriage is the expected standard for all school age children.
- Teaches peer refusal skills, the benefits of abstinence, and risks of premarital sexual activity.
- Provides factually accurate biological or pathological information related to the human reproductive system.
- ❖ Teaches how sexually transmitted diseases (including HIV/AIDS) are and are not transmitted
- Teaches the rates of sexually transmitted infections among pre-teen and teens
- ❖ Teaches the effects of contracting sexually transmitted diseases
- ❖ Teaches that abstinence from sexual activity is the only certain means of avoiding out-of-wedlock pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases when transmitted through sexual contact, including HIV/AIDS, and other associated health and emotional problems.
- ❖ Teaches the effectiveness and safety of all FDA-approved contraceptive methods in preventing pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.
- Informs students about local resources for testing and medical care for sexually transmitted diseases
- ❖ Teaches awareness of sexual assault, sexual abuse, and risk reduction.
- ❖ Informs students about resources and reporting procedures if they experience sexual assault or sexual abuse.
- Provides opportunities that allow for interaction between the parent or legal guardian and the student

Per Wake County Public School policy #5120 parents/guardians may review the RHS instructional materials by making an appointment with the Healthful Living teacher. Additionally, per policy #5120, if you prefer that your child <u>not</u> participate in any or all of this instruction you will need to notify the principal and the healthful living teacher <u>in writing</u>. Upon receipt of your written letter, your child will receive an equal, alternate assignment. Letters requesting an "opt out" from RHS must be returned to the school no later than <u>December 16, 2022</u>.

The RHS unit will begin on the following days for the following Healthful Living teachers:

Coach Close - Mar 7, 2022 Coach Avery - Mar 14, 2022 Coach Pratt - Mar 21, 2022

Coach Haymore - Mar 29, 2022 Coach Markham - Apr 4, 2022

This unit will continue for up to 5 days. Please look upon this unit as an opportunity to talk to your child about making healthy choices associated with their sexuality.

If you have any questions, please contact <u>your child's Healthful Living teacher or Coach Markham at smarkham@wcpss.net.</u>

Sincerely,

Leesville Road Middle School Healthful Living Department