HEALTH EDUCATION EXEMPTION

The Salem School District’s Health and Physical Education high school course requirements include instruction about parts of the body, reproduction, and related topics.

The School Board requires instruction to be appropriate to grade level, course of study, and developmental age of students. Further, instruction must occur in a systematic manner. The Superintendent will require faculty members who present this instruction to receive professional development and training that includes appropriate teaching strategies and assessments consistent with the topics addressed.

Parents or guardians who wish to discuss health and physical education materials may arrange a meeting with the Principal or the appropriate instructor to review course materials.

Opt-Out Procedure

Parents or guardians who do not want their child to participate in a particular unit of health or sex education instruction for religious or personal reasons or objections, are permitted to have their child opt-out of such instruction. Units about which parents or guardians may object include required units on:

- Comprehensive sex education, including instruction on the prevention, transmission, and spread of AIDS.
- Family life instruction including instruction on the prevention, transmission and spread of AIDS.
- Instruction on diseases.
- Recognizing and avoiding sexual abuse.
- Instruction on donor programs for organ/tissue, blood donor, and transplantation.

Parents or guardians who wish to have their child opt-out of such instruction are required to notify the school principal in writing and state the particular unit of study in which the student is not to participate. Students exempted by request of the parent or guardian under this policy will be given an alternative assignment sufficient to meet health education credit requirements. The alternative assignment will be provided by the health or physical education teacher in conjunction with the school principal.

Such written requests are valid only for the school year in which they are submitted, and therefore must be submitted annually.

Adopted 11/25/08