

John Glenn



Bedford, MA 01730

Kevin Tracey

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Enclosed is an outline of our school's comprehensive Life Skills Curriculum. This program has been developed by our professional staff and is consistent with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks for Health. The overall goal of the course is to continue efforts begun in earlier grades to promote the health and well-being of our students and to help them make wise and informed decisions during their teen-age years and beyond.

Sex education is part of the Life Skills curriculum in grade 7 and 8, including topics such as puberty; dating; relationships and communication skills; pregnancy; birth control; prevention of HIV/Aids and other sexually transmitted diseases; and prevention of sexual abuse. If you would like to review the curriculum at the school, you are welcome to do so. Please call to arrange a convenient time.

During the course, students will be able to ask questions, which will be answered factually and in an age appropriate manner. Each student's privacy will be respected, and no one will be made to feel uncomfortable by answering questions or revealing personal information. Material will be presented in a balanced, factual way, which clearly indicates that people may have strong religious and moral beliefs about issues such as birth control and abortion and that these beliefs must be respected.

Under Massachusetts's law and Bedford School Committee policy, you may exempt your child from any portion of the curriculum that primarily involves human sexual education or human sexuality issues. To receive an exemption, simply send a letter to the Principal requesting an exemption for your child. Any student who is exempt from this portion of the curriculum will not be penalized. We will provide an alternative assignment to students who are exempt.

We look forward to working with you to ensure that your child has a positive and educationally enriching experience in Life Skills class this school year. If you have any questions, please contact your child's Life Skills teacher (Ms. Supprise or Ms. Beinert-Hunnewell).

Sincerely,

Kevin Tracey
Principal

Matthew Mehler
Assistant Principal