

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
INFORMATIONAL REPORT
PRESENTATION ON THE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION

April 29, 2024

Background:

The Harford County Citizen Advisory Committee on Family Life Education was established by the General Curriculum Committee following the adoption of the 1967 bylaw, (COMAR 13A.04.01), pertaining to family life and human development. This committee discusses and reviews the Family Life Education Curriculum and alignment to the MSDE comprehensive health education framework. The committee was charged with providing review and comment on instructional materials for the Family Life and Human Sexuality Education program in grades 5 – 12, in relation to compliance with the State Standards for Comprehensive Health Education. The Advisory Committee has been an integral part of ensuring alignment of family life education unit to the MSDE standards for health education for over five decades.

Discussion:

This presentation provides an overview of the Family Life Education Citizens Advisory committee and the committee’s response to the charge of the committee.

The committee notes the following accomplishments, related to the committee charge, during the 2023 – 2024 school year:

1. Reviewed and provided comment on proposed updates to the Health 8 Sexting Lesson resources.
 - a. Curricular Alignment to MSDE Comprehensive Health Education Framework:
 - i. Grade 8 - 1c.8.19: Analyze the negative consequences of sending sexually explicit pictures or messages by e-mail or cell phone or posting sexually explicit pictures on social media sites.
 - b. Updated resources included:
 - i. “What do you think?” student scenario activity
 - ii. “The Decision: Mind Mapping” student activity
2. Reviewed and provided comment on proposed updates to the Health I Healthy Relationships Lesson resources.

- a. Curricular Alignment to MSDE Comprehensive Health Education Framework:
 - i. Grade 8 - 1c.HS1.2: Summarize the importance of talking with parents and other trusted adults about issues related to relationships, growth and development, sexual decision-making, and sexual health.
 - b. Updated resources included:
 - i. “Talking to Your Parents or Other Adults” article
 - ii. “Talking Pointers” student assignment
3. Reviewed and provided comment on proposed updates to the Health 8, Health I, and Health II contraceptive lesson.
- a. Curricular Alignment to MSDE Comprehensive Health Education Framework:
 - i. Grade 8 - 1c.8.12: Describe ways sexually active people can reduce the risk of pregnancy.
 - ii. Health I and Health II - 1c.HS1.15: Compare and contrast types of contraceptive and disease-prevention methods.
 - b. Proposed lesson update included:
 - i. Addition of the OPill as a contraceptive method including the following information:
 - 1. How the OPill works
 - 2. Effectiveness of the OPill
 - 3. Availability of the OPill
 - 4. Additional information including side effects, no protection for STIs, and doctors as a reliable resource for information for this medication

Superintendent’s Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Schools recommends the Board of Education accept this informational report on the Family Life Education Citizens Advisory Committee.