

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY SCHOOLS

Reproductive Health and Safety Education Permission Form

In accordance with Transylvania County Board of Education Policy IGB and as required by law beginning in grade 7 through grade 9, reproductive health and safety education must be taught to students. The information provided will be **age-appropriate** on sexual abstinence until marriage, STDs, the human reproductive system, effective contraceptive methods for preventing pregnancy and awareness of sexual assault and sexual abuse.

The materials will be taught in two units during regular health education classes (separated by boys and girls). A parent/guardian must provide a signed permission form for his/her child to participate in either or both units. **If a parent/guardian does not provide a signed permission form for participation, the student will be given an alternate assignment.**

Unit One: The Abstinence-Based Unit will include the following topics:

- A. Teaches abstinence from sexual activity outside of marriage is the expected standard for all school-age children.
- B. Presents techniques and strategies to deal with peer pressure and offering positive reinforcement.
- C. Presents reasons, skills and strategies for remaining or becoming abstinent from sexual activity.
- D. Teaches abstinence from sexual activity as 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.
- E. Teaches that a mutually faithful, monogamous heterosexual relationship in the context of marriage is the best lifetime means of avoiding sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS.
- F. Teaches the positive benefits of abstinence until marriage and the risks of pre-marital sexual activity.
- G. Provides opportunities that allow for interaction between the parent or legal guardian and the student.
- H. Provides factually accurate biological or pathological information that is related to the human reproductive system.

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Unit Two: The Reproductive Health and Safety Education Unit will include the following topics:

- A. Teaches about sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). Instruction shall include how sexually transmitted diseases are and are not transmitted, the effectiveness and safety of all federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved methods of reducing the risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases, and information on local resources for testing and medical care for sexually transmitted diseases. Instruction shall include the rates of infection among pre-teens and teens of each known STD and the effects of contracting each transmitted disease. In particular, the instruction shall include information about the effects of contracting the Human Papilloma Virus, including sterility and cervical cancer.
- B. Teaches about the effectiveness and safety of all FDA approved contraceptive methods in preventing pregnancy.
- C. Teaches awareness of sexual assault, sexual abuse and risk reduction. The instruction and materials shall:
 - 1. Focus on healthy relationships;
 - 2. Teach students what constitutes sexual assault and sexual abuse, the causes of those behaviors, and risk reduction;
 - 3. Inform students about the resources and reporting procedures if they experience sexual assault or sexual abuse; and
 - 4. Examine common misconceptions and stereotypes about sexual assault and sexual abuse.

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Print Name of Student

Please check **one box only** which applies to your son/daughter:

☐ I approve for my son/daughter to participate in **BOTH** the **Abstinence-Based AND** the **Reproductive Health and Safety Units**.

☐ I approve for my son/daughter to participate **ONLY** in the **Reproductive Health and Safety Unit**.

☐ I approve for my son/daughter to participate **ONLY** in the **Abstinence-Based Unit**.

☐ I do **NOT** want my son/daughter to participate in **EITHER** unit. I understand the alternate activity will be a health research paper.

Print Name of Parent/Guardian

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Instructional materials will be available for review in the principal's office for 60 days prior to the start of the school year.

If the parent/guardian wants their son/daughter to participate in both units, permission must be given for both units. The parent/guardian has the right to consent or withhold their consent for their son/daughter to participate in any or all of these programs. If a parent/guardian does not provide a signed permission form for participation, the student will be given an alternate assignment.

*Please return the completed form to your child's teacher.
If you have questions, please contact the school principal.*