



Thursday, March 31, 2011

Dear Grade 8 Parents/Guardians,

This week, in Health class we will start our Growth and Development Unit. The topics that will be covered will address the expectations from the Ministry of Education and Training document, ***The Ontario Curriculum Grades 1-8 Health and Physical Education, 2010.***

The expectations in this strand are age-appropriate and, for this grade, are as follows:

- explain the importance of abstinence as a positive choice for adolescents
- identify symptoms, methods of transmission, prevention, and high-risk behaviours related to common STDs, HIV, and AIDS
- identify methods used to prevent pregnancy
- apply living skills (e.g., decision-making, assertiveness, and refusal skills) in making informed decisions, and analyze the consequences of engaging in sexual activities and using drugs
- identify sources of support (e.g., parents/guardians, doctors) related to healthy sexuality issues.

It is our belief that you as parents play the most significant role in the formation of your daughter's values and behaviours related to human growth and development. This unit offers you the chance to discuss the classroom lessons with your daughter and to consider them in view of your own family beliefs.

Please sign and detach the portion of the letter below and have your daughter return it to her teacher by Monday, April 4, 2011. Should you have any concerns or questions during this unit of study, please feel free to contact me at ndelanghe@elmwood.ca

Sincerely,

Nadine Delanghe
Physical Education Teacher

Frances Marchand
Middle School Director of Student Life

Grade 8 Growth and Development Unit

I have read the letter which introduces the Health Unit on Growth and Development.

Name of student: _____ Homeroom: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____