

**Family Life and Human Development Education**

**I. GOALS:** The family life and human development area of the health curriculum will serve two important goals:

1. To build an understanding of the rational and ethical basis of moral values generally accepted in our society, and
2. To develop the foundation for making responsible choices of behavior that will reflect respect for the individual and for others in the family and community.

**II. OBJECTIVES:** The objectives of these programs are to enable maturing youth to:

1. Understand family relationships and accept family responsibilities.
2. Appreciate the unique bonds of love and loyalty that bind the family.
3. Cope with stress and trouble that the family may encounter.
4. Value the individuality of each family member and encourage growth and development of each separate personality.
5. Cooperate with members of other families in the community.
6. Recognize and understand the differences in family structures, customs, and values in society.
7. Learn the parts of the reproductive system and attain an understanding of the system in order to properly care for and use the system wisely.
8. Mature into manhood or womanhood with minimum anxiety and confusion over the proper sexual role.
9. Understand and value the distinct characteristics of the masculine and feminine points of view.
10. Develop a background to prepare for a deep and meaningful relationship in a permanent and satisfying marriage.

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**III. CONTENT STRANDS:** The content of the family life and human development program will be organized around three strands:

1. Interpersonal relationships,
2. Physiological and personality changes, and
3. Physiology and psychology of human sexual behavior.

**IV. EXEMPTIONS:** The parent or guardian of a minor student who objects to the student's participation in the family life curriculum may request that the student be exempted from the instruction.

- A. Elementary and Middle School:** The request must be made on the district parental permission form.
- B. High School:** The parent or guardian must make such request in writing to the building principal.

**Legal References:** Connecticut General Statutes

- 10-16b. Prescribed courses of study.
- 10-16d. Family life education programs not mandatory.
- 10-16e. Students not required to participate in family life education programs.
- 10-16f. Family life programs to supplement required curriculum.

**Policy Approved:** 06/24/85

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