

1.0. General Administration

1.B. Student Management

1.B. SENSITIVE CONTENT

Policy Reference: EL-1.1

Reviewed by Committee: January 13, 2015, October 27, 2020, September 27, 2022

Health Education is a part of the combined Physical Education/Health Education Curriculum. The aim of the Physical Education/Health curriculum is to provide each student with planned and balanced programming to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes for physically active and healthy lifestyles. Furthermore, there are instances where cross-curricular learning and/or other content area also covers the topics as defined below.

SENSITIVE CONTENT

For student learning outcomes related to potentially sensitive issues, schools must consider parental involvement and alternative delivery models. Sensitive topics include

- Human sexuality/gender
- Substance use and abuse prevention
- Personal sexual and illicit substance safety

Lakeshore School Division recognizes the importance of age/development appropriate content throughout the subject areas and that it is the duty of staff to teach the curriculum, create an environment that respects human diversity, and prepare students to be citizens in a just and democratic society.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Written communication (letter, e-mail, etc.) is to be sent to the parent/guardian of each Lakeshore School Division student each year, informing them of the alternative delivery option and which classes may be covering units with sensitive topics.

Some of the content and issues pertaining to student learning outcomes may be potentially sensitive for some students and their parents/families and/or communities based on religious and/or cultural values.

Lakeshore School Division will provide an alternative delivery choice for those parents who opt out of the school-based program:

- If the school-based program delivery is rejected by the parent/guardian, it will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian to instruct his/her child based on the Manitoba Health Curriculum.
- Evaluation of performance on the alternative delivery model will be based upon the same benchmarks and rubrics as used in the school-based program. Date of

evaluation will be set by the classroom teacher. It is the parents'/guardians' responsibility to obtain and provide information to the students.

SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT

When requested, schools in Lakeshore School Division will provide information resources, outlining the Health Curriculum for each grade.

Curriculum framework of student learning outcomes is available on-line at:
www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/physhlth/framework/index.html

DIVISIONAL INVOLVEMENT

The Board encourages the use of community resources and expertise in delivering the Health topics in the classroom.

Lakeshore School Division

Date:

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Health Education Curriculum, as part of the Physical Education/Health Education Curriculum, has been developed to provide students with the knowledge and skills to make healthy lifestyle decisions and choices. The Curriculum has been developed by teams of educators and medical practitioners, and has been approved by Manitoba Education, for use in Manitoba schools.

At various grade levels the curriculum deals with sensitive content including topics such as:

- Human sexuality/gender
- Substance use and abuse prevention
- Personal sexual and illicit substance safety

Parents can find further information on the Health Curriculum related learning outcomes through the Manitoba Education website at www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/physhlth/framework/index.html or by requesting a more detailed outline from your child's teacher.

Cross-curricular learning is also encouraged in our Division and other subject areas may also include units that deal with sensitive topics.

Parents may choose an alternative delivery method for these topics, where they would consult with the teacher to cover the content with their own children.

Please also note that this letter covers Health Education and other similar units of study. School staff have an obligation to provide safe spaces for all students and there may be times where sensitive topics are brought forward by students or where these items need to be addressed to comply with other Division and Provincial legislation and policy.

If you would like to opt your child out of learning this content in the classroom and would rather deliver the content yourself please provide written notice to the teacher by _____(date).