



Beginning of the Year District Communication-Secondary Health Education

Dear Parent or Guardian,

In Gresham-Barlow School District our goal is to ensure that each student learns in a safe and supportive learning environment and is provided with a high quality education. This letter is to inform you about an important part of your child's health education in our secondary schools. First, to let you know about our District Comprehensive Health Instruction Plan and second, the newly purchased materials we will be using to teach health content this year.

In accordance with the requirements of the State of Oregon, our district has adopted a Comprehensive Health Instruction Plan (CHIP). The plan outlines Human Sexuality Education in grades K-12, Child Sexual Violence Prevention instruction in grades K-12, and Domestic Violence Education in grades 7-12 and includes the content used to address the new health standards. The Comprehensive Health Instruction Plan was developed through a process that included parents, community members, medical professionals, teachers, administrators, and was approved by our GBSD Board of Directors in July, 2018.

In addition, this year we will begin using our new digital instructional materials, published by McGraw-Hill Education, for our Secondary Health courses. A brief review of the materials is noted below:

- Middle School instructors of Health will use, but are not limited to, the district-adopted resource entitled *Teen Health* along with the supplemental text *Teen Health: Healthy Relationships and Sexuality*.
- High school instructors of Health will use, but are not limited to, the district-adopted resource entitled *Glencoe Health*, along with the supplemental text *Human Sexuality*.

The Gresham-Barlow School District aims to engage students in health education instruction that is medically accurate, age-appropriate, and is not fear or shame-based. Our district recognizes the sensitive nature of some content that may be presented in our classrooms and although the CHIP, or our new curricula, are not intended to conflict with individual values or norms, we recognize that some parents/guardians may want more information or choose to have their child engage in an individualized learning experience to address the standards.

As the year progresses you will receive school communication from your child's teacher about the content being taught and at any time you can view the instructional materials. If you have concerns about the content, or feel it is in your child's best interest to have these standards addressed in another way as determined by you and the teacher together, please inform your child's teacher and/or principal. Information regarding the individualized learning experience process is outlined in the CHIP and can be accessed on our district website under the *Departments* tab on the *Teaching and Learning* page.

Please feel free to contact your child's teacher or principal if you would like further information specific to your child's Health course, or contact the district office directly with questions about the CHIP or Health curricula.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sara Hahn-Huston
Exec. Director of Secondary Education