

**Pewamo-Westphalia Community Schools**

5101 S Clintonia Road, Westphalia, MI 48894

Phone: (989) 587-5100 - Fax: (989) 587-5120

[www.pwschools.org](http://www.pwschools.org)

Dear Parent or Guardian:

As part of our Health 8 curriculum, a course that your student is currently enrolled in, we will soon be covering HIV / AIDS and Sex Education coursework - lessons recently approved by our school district’s Sex Education Advisory Board (SEAB) and Board of Education. By way of the Michigan Model for Health curriculum, 8th Grade topics include: Personal Safety, Healthy Relationships, Sexually Transmitted Infections (including HIV), Reproduction, Anatomy, and Pregnancy.

Pewamo-Westphalia Community Schools acknowledges that parents / guardians are the primary educators for their child(ren) and we are committed to partnering with you to provide supplementary resources to support you in this role. In our SEAB’s journey to reestablish an appropriate sex education curriculum for our students, a wide variety of parents, educators, students, and community members have come together over the past years to comb through appropriate lessons for our children - a process demonstrated and communicated at recent public forums in January and February prior to being approved by our Board of Education. Consequently, I am proud of this committee’s work and validate it as “good for students” - our top focus when changing / revising building, programming, and curricular norms.

Please know that parents / guardians have the option of excluding their student(s) from any (or all) portion(s) of HIV / AIDS and Sex Education instruction. If this is the case with your student(s), please fill out the exclusion form below, tear it off, and submit it to our PWMHS Main Office. Included with this letter is a list of the lessons and a summary of what is taught within each. Students who are excused will be assigned separate work.

You are welcome to contact Mr. Nick Martin, your student’s Health teacher, in case you would like to preview the lessons being taught - [nicholas.martin@pwschools.org](mailto:nicholas.martin@pwschools.org). The lessons can also be viewed within our Central Office, Monday through Friday, 9a - 4p.

As always, you are welcome to reach out to me as well - [ryan.portenga@pwschools.org](mailto:ryan.portenga@pwschools.org) / (989) 587-5100. #Onward! #WeArePW

Sincerely,

Ryan Portenga, Principal



**Pewamo-Westphalia Community Schools**

5101 S Clintonia Road, Westphalia, MI 48894

Phone: (989) 587-5100 - Fax: (989) 587-5120

[www.pwschools.org](http://www.pwschools.org)

**Sex Education Exemption Request**

1. If you **want** your child to **participate** in the Sex Education and HIV / STI prevention lessons you **do not need** to return this form.

2. If you want your child to be **excused** from some or all the Sex Education and HIV / STI prevention lessons **this year**, please fill out the following

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ My student is exempt from ALL 13 sex education lessons

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ My student is exempt from the following lessons (place check mark by lessons)

\_\_\_\_\_ Lesson 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Lesson 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Lesson 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Lesson 4

\_\_\_\_\_ Lesson 5 \_\_\_\_\_ Lesson 6 \_\_\_\_\_ Lesson 7 \_\_\_\_\_ Lesson 8

\_\_\_\_\_ Lesson 9 \_\_\_\_\_ Lesson 10 \_\_\_\_\_ Lesson 11 \_\_\_\_\_ Lesson 12

\_\_\_\_\_ Lesson 13

Parent / Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Notes:

·

Sex Education and HIV / STI prevention lessons must be exempted annually.

**Schedule of Lessons**

**Day 1**

Students illustrate how teens make decisions on relationships with peers with a roleplay of two scenarios.

**Day 2**

Students will be instructed in same gender groups, male students with a male teacher and female students with a female teacher. One day of instruction will be on the male reproductive system and one day will be on the female reproductive system.

In same gender groups, the teacher covers puberty and the changes that occur in females during puberty then teaches about the female reproductive system.

Students complete the Female Reproductive Organs activity sheet.

Student work in small groups to complete a matching activity, pairing up the terms and definitions on cards with their table group.

The teacher then covers ovulation and menstruation. Then teaches how pregnancy occurs.

**Day 3**

Students will be instructed in same gender groups, male students with a male teacher and female students with a female teacher. One day of instruction will be on the male reproductive system and one day will be on the female reproductive system.

In same gender groups, the teacher covers puberty and the changes that occur in males during puberty then teaches about the male reproductive system.

Students fill in the blanks on the male reproductive organs sheet.

Student work in small groups to complete a matching activity, pairing up the terms and definitions on cards with their table group.

Teacher then covers the Pathway of the Sperm slide and discusses the male role in fertilization/pregnancy

**Day 4**

Students record facts or myths they know about HIV in small groups then watch a video about HIV and participate in a class discussion and review facts about HIV in a teacher-led discussion.

**Day 5**

Students review facts about 5 STIs and determine how they are spread, treated, and prevented. Students write down the most vital information they learned about each STI and then determine which behaviors put them at risk for STIs.

**Day 6**

Review risk behaviors for HIV and STIs and importance to avoid infection with HIV or other STIs. Students will identify symptoms of HIV or STIs. Students will practice finding reliable information on the internet or using a phone book. Students will identify national, state, and local resources available to young people.

**Day 7**

Working in partnership with the Clinton County Sheriff's office, this lesson will include a guest presentation from law enforcement on the law including sharing explicit pictures and harassment. Students will review the difference between federal and state laws especially related to age of consent and confidentiality in healthcare. Students will then participate in a mock trial related to the approved scenario.

**Day 8**

The class will have a discussion on the benefits of having a plan to stay within boundaries to keep them safe from unhealthy behaviors. Students will describe the step in goal setting and create their own goal and setting boundaries.

**Day 9**

Students will practice verbal and nonverbal communication skills when communicating their personal boundaries for safe behaviors.

**Day 10**

Students will practice in pairs identifying trouble and using refusal skills to communicate personal boundaries.

**Day 11**

Students will identify reasons to avoid risky sexual situations including the legal consequences. Students will practice their refusal skills in pairs or groups with scenarios.

As a whole class, participate in the district developed lesson on the myths and harms of pornograhpy.

**Day 12**

Students will work in groups to develop an advocacy plan to communicate the importance of avoiding risky behaviors to keep their peers and themselves safe from HIV and other STIs.

**Day 13**

Students will receive feedback on their advocacy plan and then prepare to implement the plan.