

April 19, 2021

Cypress Elementary School

Dear 4th Grade Parent or Guardian,

During the weeks of May 3rd & 10th, your student’s science class will begin the unit on Human Growth and Development (HGD) to cover the required Florida Sunshine State Standards and will be taught as a whole group. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the topics that will be covered and to provide you with the opportunity to speak with me prior to this unit.

Sexual health education in elementary school begins with basic concepts designed to teach children about the physical and emotional changes that they will experience and to help prepare them for this development.

Throughout the school year, we have focused on skills related to communication and decision making. In addition to learning about basic anatomy and physiology in this unit, students will learn the importance of applying these skills while developing healthy relationships.

School based sexual education is not a substitute for what you teach your child at home, but it can be a valuable resource in preparing your child for the future. It is our belief that you provide the most important role in the formation of your children’s values and behaviors.

The HGD unit will include lessons on topics like: Respect for All, Hygiene, Body Systems (Digestive, Muscular, Skeletal), Puberty, and Female Menstruation. For more information on these lessons and the Florida Sunshine State Standards please visit: [www.pasco.k12.fl.us/oll/page/healthsel](http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/oll/page/healthsel)

It is our hope that you will discuss the topic of adolescent development with your children as we approach these topics in school. If I can provide you with any further information, or if you choose to opt your child out of this unit, please notify us **in** **writing a week prior** to the beginning of the unit.

Please feel free to contact the school if you have questions concerning this health unit.

Respectfully,

4th Grade Teachers and Mrs. Berryhill-Principal