

Dear Parent,

With the passing of the legislation titled “Healthy Youth Act of 2009,” schools are directed to provide Reproductive Health and Safety Education to students in grades 7-9. Your child will be receiving this information via their 9th grade Health and PE class. Buncombe County Health Educators will be collaborating with the teachers from your school in providing the instruction. The comprehensive six day curriculum for 9th grade students will include developmentally appropriate materials while focusing on the following points:

1. Abstinence is the expected standard for youth.
2. Reasons, decision making skills, and strategies for becoming or remaining abstinent.
3. Strategies to deal with peer pressure.
4. Abstinence is the only certain means of preventing pregnancy and diseases.
5. The best lifelong means of prevention is fidelity in marriage, and the benefits of abstinence as compared to the risks of premarital sex.
6. Factually accurate biological and pathological information related to the human reproductive system.
7. How STD’s are transmitted, the effectiveness of all FDA-approved methods for STD prevention, and information on local resources for testing and treatment.
8. The effectiveness and safety of all FDA-approved contraceptive methods.
9. Awareness of sexual assault, sexual abuse and risk reduction.

We acknowledge that parents are the best and primary educators for their children. We want to support your efforts, honor your wishes and work with you to provide a quality program and the best outcome for your child while still meeting the mandates of the law. We encourage you to talk with your child as he/she participates in the program during this semester.

Instructional outlines and materials follow the Healthful Living North Carolina Standard Course of Study and are available for review at <http://buncombeschools.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=92531&pageId=2130460>

If you have further questions, please contact Debbie Bryant, Health and Physical Education Coordinator, at 255-5960 or debbie.bryant@bcsemail.org

If after you have previewed the materials and objectives, you wish for your child to be removed from this instruction, please notify the principal at your school in writing before the first day of the unit begins.