



LINWOOD

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Belhaven Middle School
Seaview Elementary School

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Health Standard Opt-Out Information & Procedures

Comprehensive Health & PE:

The health standards have been updated to reflect the June 2020 revision by the NJDOE. Additional information regarding topics for specific grade levels has been shared with District families and can be found on the district website. Please note that the district will cover the social and sexual health standards to the minimum requirement. The NJ Department of Education has included the right for parents to opt out of any topics that they do not wish for their child to learn about in the school setting. The NJDOE does not allow parents to opt out of health instruction as a whole. Parents will receive notice when specific lessons are taught at the elementary level and when students have their health marking period at the middle school level (typically the second half of the year). Procedures for notifying the teacher and school on your decision to opt out are included below.

Opt-Out Procedure:

The NJDOE recognizes and respects that some families prefer to have these conversations privately. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.7, any child whose parent or guardian presents to the school a signed statement that any part of instruction in health, family life education, or sex education is in conflict with his or her conscience or sincerely held moral or religious beliefs shall be excused from that portion of the course. **Parents and guardians seeking to exercise this option should submit a letter to the building principal including their child's full name, topics of which they wish to opt out, and the statement "This/These topic(s) are in conflict with my conscience and/or beliefs and I do not wish for my child to participate in these lessons. I understand that my child will be removed from the class while these topics are being discussed." Letters must be signed and dated.** Students opted out of topics will be provided other activities in an alternate location.

If at any time you have questions regarding the curriculum, please reach out to your child's Health/PE teacher or the building principal.