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Dear Parent or Guardian:

The Readington Township School District understands and recognizes that parents/guardians are the primary educators for their children. We are writing to inform you that **Fifth Grade** students will soon begin to learn about health standards in the domains of Personal Growth and Development, Social Sexual Health, and Pregnancy and Parenting. We believe that collaborating with families is crucial as we teach students the knowledge and skills necessary to live a healthy, active life.

We invite you to examine and discuss this information with your child before this content is presented at school. The curriculum guide is available on the district website for your review ([Our District /Curriculum Department/Curriculum Documents](#)). You are also welcome to contact your child's Health Teacher for further details about the content of the lessons.

Beginning the week of May 19th, our certified health/physical education teacher will present two approximately 40-minute lessons. Boys and girls will receive these lessons together during their regularly scheduled Health/PE class times. The lessons will convey:

LESSON 1: Human Reproduction

- Physical and emotional changes occur during puberty.
- Estrogen and testosterone play a role in physical and emotional development.
- Cells are involved in human reproduction. (sperm and egg).
- Define how conception occurs within the context of human reproduction.
- Pregnancy can occur in more than one way, including IVF.

LESSON 2: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

- Identify at least one trusted adult in their lives they can go to with their questions, including parents, grandparents, teachers, coaches, and others.
- Define sexual orientation and gender identity.
- Describe gender role stereotypes and their possible impacts.

Although we encourage families to have their students participate in this essential health topic, we want to remind Parents/Guardians that they do have the option of excusing their child from any portion of health education instruction if it conflicts with conscience, moral, or religious beliefs. If this is the case with your child, please [CLICK HERE to fill out the OPT-OUT FORM](#). **This form must be completed before May 15th.** Students who are excused will be assigned to a separate classroom for the identified lessons.

Sincerely,
Carrie Sivo, Health and Physical Education Teacher
Sarah Pauch, Supervisor