

Jackson Local Schools

Striving for Excellence



October 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians:

RE: Child Sexual Abuse, Dating Violence and Sexual Violence Prevention

Ohio's 134th General Assembly enacted Senate Bill 288 which updated the prescribed curriculum for health education, adding requirements related to child sexual abuse prevention, dating violence prevention and sexual violence prevention. Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year and beyond, the law includes requirements for student instruction, parent and legal guardian notification, and training for school personnel.

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION (K-6) (SB288 Requirement)

Schools are required to provide developmentally appropriate instruction in child sexual abuse prevention to students in grades kindergarten through six and include information on available counseling and resources for children who are sexually abused. School counselors will provide classroom instruction.

Lessons will help children to understand:

- personal boundaries and how to become their own advocates in terms of child abuse and bullying.
- recognize the main types of abuse including physical, verbal, sexual and neglect.
- recognize the main types of bullying behavior including physical, verbal, sexual, social and cyberbullying.

If you would like to learn more about the instruction, please reach out to your child's school counselor for grades K-6.

DATING VIOLENCE PREVENTION EDUCATION AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION EDUCATION (SB288 Requirement)

Schools are required to provide developmentally appropriate instruction in dating violence prevention education and sexual violence prevention education to students in grades seven through twelve. This requirement can be fulfilled in a Health course which Jackson offers

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beginning in the eighth grade. Instruction must include recognizing dating violence warning signs and characteristics of healthy relationships. Instruction and information cannot be connected in any way to any individual, entity, or organization that provides, promotes, counsels or makes referrals for abortion or abortion related services.

The department of education and workforce shall require course material and instruction in venereal disease education courses taught pursuant to division (A)(5)(c) of section 3313.60 of the Revised Code to do all of the following:

- stress that students should abstain from sexual activity until after marriage;
- teach the potential physical, psychological, emotional, and social side effects of participating in sexual activity outside of marriage;
- teach that conceiving children out of wedlock is likely to have harmful consequences for the child, the child's parents, and society;
- stress that sexually transmitted diseases are serious possible hazards of sexual activity;
- advise students of the laws pertaining to financial responsibility of parents to children born in and out of wedlock;
- advise students of the circumstances under which it is criminal to have sexual contact with a person under the age of sixteen pursuant to section 2907.04 of the Ohio Revised Code; and
- emphasize adoption as an option for unintended pregnancies.

If you would like to learn more about the course, please reach out to your child's Health teacher.

Upon written request of the student's parent or guardian, a student shall be excused from taking instruction in child sexual abuse prevention, dating violence prevention, and sexual violence prevention. Please contact your child's school counselor for K-6 requirements or your child's Health teacher in grades 8 through grade 12 requirements if you do not wish for them to participate in instruction.

Professionally,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris DiLoreto". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christopher DiLoreto, Superintendent
Jackson Local Schools