

NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS
Regarding Reproductive Health and HIV Education

November 27th, 2017

The Renaissance Public School Academy HIV/AIDS and Sex Education Advisory Board and Board of Education have established a program of instruction, which includes puberty, HIV/AIDS and other serious communicable disease prevention education and sexuality education.

According to Michigan Law, you have the right to review the materials and curriculum content to be used in HIV and other serious communicable disease prevention education, as well as sex education. The local board of education, in compliance with the statute, has made the materials and curriculum available for your review. If you wish to review the materials or curriculum content there will be a meeting on November 29th, 2017 from 8:00-8:30am. If you are unable to attend, but would like to arrange another time to preview the curriculum, please contact the school.

This statute allows you to excuse your child from participation in the classes that include HIV and other serious communicable disease prevention instruction, as well as sex education if you choose. If you wish to exercise your right to excuse your child from instruction without penalty, please send written notice to the principal of your child's school before December 1st, 2017.

Sincerely,
Sarah Anderson and Henry Mayer

Parent Request to Excuse Student From
Reproductive Health and HIV Education

I am requesting that my child be excused from the Reproductive Health and HIV Education instruction for the current school year.

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Dear Parents or Family Caregivers,

Botvin *LifeSkills Training* (LST) is an evidence-based substance abuse prevention program proven to reduce the risks of alcohol, tobacco, drug abuse, and violence by targeting the major social and psychological factors that promote the initiation of substance use and other risky behaviors. This comprehensive and exciting program provides adolescents and young teens with the confidence and skills necessary to successfully handle challenging situations.

Developed by Dr. Gilbert J. Botvin, a leading prevention expert, *LifeSkills Training* is backed by over 30 scientific studies and is recognized as a model or exemplary program by an array of government agencies, including the U.S. Department of Education and the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention. The *LifeSkills* program learning objectives include:

-) Personal Self-Management Skills
 - o Students develop skills that help them enhance self-esteem, develop problem-solving abilities, reduce stress and anxiety, and manage anger.
-) General Social Skills
 - o Students gain skills to meet personal challenges, such as overcoming shyness, communicating clearly, building relationships, and avoiding violence.
-) Drug Resistance Skills
 - o Students build effective defenses against pressures to use tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs.

This program is optional for students, and is being offered to Renaissance Academy students in 8th grade beginning on February 28th. I will be working with the students for 1 and ½ hours, once a week, for 6 weeks with half of the 8th grade students, then I will complete the course again with the other half. Notes will be sent home on a regular basis keeping parents informed of what we discussed that day in *LifeSkills* class.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Mrs. Bergman.

Sarah Garchow
Prevention Coordinator for Isabella County
Ten16 Recovery Network
sgarchow@1016.org
989-773-9655 x 1105

Lisa Bergman
Principal
Renaissance Academy
lbergman@renaissancepsa.com
989-773-9889

This program is optional. If you do NOT want your child participating in the program, please sign the attached form and return to your child's classroom teacher.

By signing this form, I am saying in do NOT want my child to participate in the *LifeSkills Training* program being offered at Renaissance.

Name of Child:

Name of Parent:

Parent Signature:
