



MILL A SCHOOL DISTRICT

1142 Jessup Road. Cook, WA 98605 • (509) 538-2522 • fax (509) 538-2181



March 22, 2022

Dear Mill A School Parents/Guardians,

This letter is to inform you that because of Senate Bill 5395, passed by the Legislature and Washington voters in 2020, all public schools are required to provide comprehensive sexual health education. In accordance with district policy 2125, MASD schools have, and will continue to make age-appropriate health education a priority. In overview, Students in grades 6–8 will learn about the immune system, HIV, & other STIs (sexually transmitted infections). Students in grades 9-12 will learn about preventing HIV and other STIs, abstinence, condoms competence, STI testing & treatment, communication, and informed consent.

This instruction will be provided during the following weeks:

MAS (Grades 6-8) Schedule: Wednesday, April 27th: (10:00-11:00AM)

To provide our students with quality instruction on this topic, we will be utilizing the KNOW curriculum, which was developed by the Washington State of Superintendent of Public Instruction's office, ensuring that medically and scientifically accurate information is presented. All of this information is presented by trained staff in a safe environment. Please also know that our staff is trained to lead discussions that recognize values-based questions. When these questions arise, our teachers do not share their opinions. Instead, they help the students to recognize that some health, relationship, and sexual choices are determined by the norms of your culture and family. In light of this, we hope that you will be a partner in your child's education during these units of study. Further material on HIV/Aids instruction (per grade levels) can be found on the school website www.milla.k12.wa.us under our "Parents Page". You may also preview the material at the school by contacting the school secretary and scheduling a time that works best for you (509-538-2522).

Even if you are choosing not to have your child participate in this learning program, recognize that students tend to talk about this content throughout the school day. Your child will likely receive second-hand information. Previewing the curriculum in advance will help you respond to questions your child may have. If you intend to have your child opt out of portions of the STI/HIV prevention unit, please contact Kaylene Herman (kherman@millaschool.org) as soon as possible for an opt-out form. ***Per district policy, parents must preview the KNOW curriculum if they intend to have their child "opt out" out of this instruction.*** Please contact me (509-538-2700) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Bob Rogers

Superintendent/Principal