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April 27, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

You are receiving this letter because you have a student in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. California state law, the [California Healthy Youth Act](#), requires that comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education be provided to students at least once in middle school and once in high school, starting in grade 7. In Stockton Unified, all 9<sup>th</sup> grade students are provided this instruction in their Biology class.

Due to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and school closures during Spring 2020, the comprehensive sexual health education will be delivered in a distance learning format. The Board-adopted curriculum, *Teen Talk*, will be used and instruction will be delivered beginning May 13, 2020 through May 27, 2020. Offerings of this instruction will be conducted several times a day by your student's science teacher via Zoom/Google Meet to accommodate student availability. Students only need to attend one session per day. If a student is not able to attend any of the sessions, the student will be marked absent.

**While participating in the curriculum, it is important that students:**

- ***have headphones or a private space away from younger children to participate in these lessons.***
- ***do not record or distribute any of the instructional material.***

Instructional materials remain available for review by parents/guardians; however, due to social distancing, review will be by appointment only. If you are interested in reviewing the curriculum, please email Marcus Sherman at [msherman@stocktonusd.net](mailto:msherman@stocktonusd.net). **State law allows you to remove your student from this instruction. If you do not want your student to participate in comprehensive sexual health or HIV prevention education, please give an electronic written request to your student's science teacher and/or site principal by May 8, 2020.**

Per the California Healthy Youth Act, instruction must encourage students to communicate with parents, guardians or other trusted adults about human sexuality. Instruction must be medically accurate, age-appropriate and inclusive of all students. It must include the following:

- Information about HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including transmission, FDA approved methods to prevent HIV and STIs, and treatment.
- Information that abstinence is the only certain way to prevent unintended pregnancy and HIV and other STIs, and information about value of delaying sexual activity.
- Discussion about social views of HIV and AIDS.
- Information about accessing resources for sexual and reproductive health care.
- Information about pregnancy, including FDA approved prevention methods, pregnancy outcomes, prenatal care, and the newborn safe surrender law.
- Information about sexual orientation and gender, including the harm of negative gender stereotypes.
- Information about healthy relationships and avoiding unhealthy behaviors and situations.

If you have questions, please contact your student's Biology teacher or school principal.

Thank you.