DATE

NOTIFICATION TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS

________________(School District) Board of Education has approved a program of instruction, which includes HIV/AIDS and other serious communicable disease prevention education and sexuality education designed specifically for our secondary level special education student. This program is provided by Kent ISD as part of a Health and Human Services federal grant. One of only twenty grants awarded in the nation, the purpose of this sexuality program is to provide sex education in your student’s self-contained classroom.

Research shows that, across the nation, our special education students are often at risk. Many do not understand how their bodies’ reproductive organs work or the social-emotional and economic impact of sexual activity. Many are coerced into sexual activity, not having practiced refusal skills. This sex education program is designed with appropriate abstinence-only lessons and resource materials. Up to 15 lessons will be provided with qualified sex educators, as well as the YWCA on dating safety to avoid coercion or violence.

In addition to the lessons on sexuality, this grant provides Positive Youth Development opportunities for your student. Included in this set of options is the Best Prom Ever, developed and coordinated by Renne Wyman a special education teacher in Sparta. Students will help design decorations, menu, invitations, write thank you notes to volunteers as well as invited to attend this special event on April 22, 2016.

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 guides available for your review. If you wish to review the materials or curriculum content, please contact the district at (phone #) to arrange a time for your review. You also have the right to observe instruction in your child’s classroom. If you wish to do this, please call ____________(phone #) to make arrangements.

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.

Sincerely,