Dear Parent(s):

In compliance with Florida Law, F.S.1003.46, Miami-Dade County Public Schools has developed “AIDS: Get the Facts!” a curriculum on HIV/AIDS for students. The curriculum is designed to address the developmental needs of kindergarten through twelfth grade students in respect to HIV/AIDS.

In kindergarten through fourth grade, the lessons focus upon universal precautions and developing good health habits. AIDS is mentioned as a disease, and HIV is introduced as the virus that causes AIDS.

Beginning in the fifth grade, the various modes of HIV transmission are introduced, and abstinence is stressed as the only certain way to prevent sexual transmission of HIV. At this grade level, the AIDS curriculum is taught after the health unit on human growth and development, and the information on sexuality does not go beyond that which is presented in the health class.

In the sixth through twelfth grade, medical information regarding HIV transmission and prevention is taught according to the maturity level of students. In addition, discussion topics are provided to assist students in understanding the impact of HIV/AIDS on society.

The role of parents is paramount to the education of children. Therefore, parents are encouraged to discuss HIV/AIDS issues with their children. The HIV/AIDS curriculum is intended to complement parents teaching, not to replace it.

Please be advised that the HIV/AIDS curriculum is available for review at your child’s school. Notwithstanding, if you do not want your child to participate in the curriculum, you may exclude your child by sending a letter to the principal. F.S. 1003.42(3) In this event, an alternate educational activity will be provided.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,