

## **Implementation of Sexuality Education - 2018-2019 School Year**

Dear Parents,

The *ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur* is implementing the Sexuality Health Education into the school systems as of this year. All schools at Riverside School Board will be receiving the information and training in order to start teaching the content in the 2018-2019 school year.

Québec schools have exercised their responsibility with respect to sexuality education for almost 40 years:

- from the 1980s to 2000, through the Personal and Social Education program curriculum delivered by teachers
- from 2000 on, sexuality education has been provided by teachers and non-teaching professionals using a variety of means

Sexuality education in the schools will therefore continue with specific learning content for each level of elementary education.

Sexuality education is essential to the overall development of children. The learning content takes into account contemporary issues, for example, easy access to images and messages about sexuality in the community and the use of social media.

The learning content defined by the *Ministère* is tailored to the students' ages and levels of development, and is in line with recommendations of experts from the *World Health Organization* and *UNESCO*. School personnel in collaboration with parents and community organizations (e.g. health network, community organizations) will teach the content.

The school and the family play complementary roles in sexuality education. The complementary nature of these roles reinforces and optimizes the efforts of both. Rest assured that our school teams are deeply committed to the healthy development of your child.

For more information, please visit <http://www.education.gouv.qc.ca/en/parents-and-guardians/sexuality-education/>.

If you have further questions, please contact the school principal.