

October 23, 2006

Dr. Weast and Members of the Board of Education

Why is MCPS not providing a meaningful alternative curriculum for those children who plan not to take the two week optional human sexuality curriculum? This new 8th grade Human Sexuality curriculum contains a two day class on sexual orientation; however in order for parents to exclude their children from this two day optional sexual orientation section; they will have to have their children not opt into the entire two week human sexuality classes.

Does that sound reasonable? Many parents may like for their children to take the human sexuality part without the sexual orientation sections. Now students will be “punished” for not taking the entire two weeks by going to the library for two weeks. Can’t MCPS do better than that?

As MCPS has seen, the sexual orientation issue is a controversial issue, however by requiring parents to take “all or nothing” MCPS may end up destroying the benefits of the human sexuality part of the health curriculum.

We hope MCPS will have an alternative curriculum ready along with this new curriculum.

SteinaWalter