

## FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION (FLE)

## Generally

The Essex School Board approves the inclusion of family life education (FLE) in the curriculum. Instruction shall be organized and maintained under the FLE standards of learning objectives developed by the State Department of Education.

## Community Involvement Team

Under procedures approved by the School Board, a community involvement team<sup>1</sup> shall be established. The team may include but not be limited to school administrators, teachers, parents, clergy, medical professionals, mental health professionals, and others in the community.

## Instructional Materials

All instructional materials used in family life education (FLE) must be approved by the superintendent or his/her designee. No materials relating to FLE may be available for circulation to students through the school libraries or resource and media centers unless the School Board has approved these materials.

## Staff Training

Teachers in the Family Life Education program will participate in the training program sponsored by the Virginia Department of Education.

## Grade Level Leaders

The superintendent, or a designee, shall appoint a FLE leader for each grade level. The FLE leader will assist in training teachers, work with the community involvement team, and assist in the implementation and evaluation of the program.

## Separate Sessions

Portions of classes in the FLE program which deal exclusively with human sexuality may be conducted in separate sessions for boys and girls.

## "Opt-out" Procedures

The superintendent shall develop "opt-out" procedures for parents or guardians who do not want their children included in all or part of the FLE program.

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## Annual Review

The FLE curriculum shall be reviewed annually. Such review shall allow for community input.

## Right of Parental Review

A parent or guardian shall have the right to review the family life curricula, including all supplemental materials used in the program.

The school board shall develop and distribute to the parents or guardians of students participating in the family life education program a summary designed to assist them in understanding the program implemented in its school division and to encourage parental guidance and involvement in the instruction of the students. Such information shall reflect the curricula of the program as taught in the classroom. The following statement will be included on the summary: "Parents and guardians have the right to review the family life education program offered by their school division, including written and audio-visual educational materials used in the program. Parents and guardians also have the right to excuse their child from all or part of family life education instruction."

Adopted: April 9, 2012

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Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-207.1, 22.1-207.2.

8 VAC 20-131-170.

Virginia Department of Education, Family Life Education: Board of Education Guidelines and Standards of Learning for Virginia Public Schools (revised 2009)

[http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards\\_docs/family\\_life/familylife\\_guidelines\\_standards.pdf](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/family_life/familylife_guidelines_standards.pdf)

Cross Refs.: IIA Instructional Materials  
INB Teaching About Controversial Issues  
KLB Public Complaints About Learning Resources