

## FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION (FLE)

### Generally

The Essex County School Board provides Family Life Education (FLE) based on the FLE Standards of Learning (SOL) objectives developed by the Department of Education. The SOL objectives related to dating violence and the characteristics of abusive relations are taught at least once in middle school and at least twice in high school. The high school FLE curriculum incorporates age-appropriate elements of effective and evidence-based programs on the prevention of dating violence, domestic abuse, sexual harassment and sexual violence and may include instruction that increases student awareness of the fact that consent is required before sexual activity and age-appropriate elements of effective and evidence-based programs on the law and meaning of consent.

### Community Involvement Team

Under procedures approved by the School Board, a community involvement team is established. The team includes but is not limited to school administrators, teachers, parents, clergy, medical professionals, mental health professionals and others in the community.

### Staff Training

Teachers in the FLE program participate in the training program sponsored by the Department of Education.

### Separate Sessions

A plan for teaching sensitive conduct in gender-separated classes is announced publicly.

### "Opt-out" Procedures

An "opt-out" procedure is provided to ensure communication with the parent or guardian for permission for students to be excused from all or part of the program.

### Annual Review

The FLE curriculum is reviewed annually. Such review allows for community input.

## Right of Parental Review

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

The School Board develops and distributes to the parents or guardians of students participating in the FLE 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 reflects the curricula of the program as taught in the classroom. The following statement is 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

Revised: August 14, 2017

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Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-207.1:1,  
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 September, 2016)

Cross Refs.:	BCF	Advisory Committees to the School Board
	IIA	Instructional Materials
	INB	Teaching About Controversial Issues
	KLB	Public Complaints About Learning Resources