

Curriculum Corner

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Highlights of the Duxbury Public Schools January 2016

Comprehensive Health and Wellness Curriculum Update

A review of the current health curriculum and programming is underway. As part of the curriculum review cycle, a district-wide Health Committee meets monthly to discuss the status of the current program and identify areas of need. The committee includes teachers, administrators, parents, high school students and members of the community. The goal of the committee is to advise the district in creating a comprehensive program that complies with the Massachusetts Health Curriculum Frameworks.

The Massachusetts Health Curriculum Frameworks identify four strands of content: Physical Health, Social and Emotional Health, Safety and Prevention, and Personal and Community Health. Each strand includes the following standards:

Physical Health	Social & Emotional Health	Safety & Prevention	Personal & Community Health
Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Growth and Development• Physical Activity & Fitness• Nutrition• Reproduction/ Sexuality	Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mental Health• Family Life• Interpersonal Relationships	Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Disease Prevention and Control• Safety and Injury Prevention• Tobacco, Alcohol and Other Substance Use/Abuse Prevention• Violence Prevention	Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consumer Health and Resource Management• Ecological Health• Community and Public Health

The document in its entirety is found at <http://www.doe.mass.edu/frameworks/health/1999/1099.pdf>. As lessons are finalized this summer, the curriculum will be available to all parents. Notification of content for the coming year will be provided in the fall so parents have the ability to opt out of sensitive content if they so choose. The goal of the programs is to ensure students have facts to make informed decisions in their personal choices while fostering a positive school culture. We look forward to providing regular updates throughout the process.