

FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION (FLE)

The School Board approves the inclusion of family life education (FLE) in the curriculum. The Superintendent shall organize and maintain instruction under the FLE Standards of Learning (SOL) objectives developed by the Virginia Department of Education, which provide for age-appropriate instructional content. 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, including sexual harassment using electronic means, 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. The FLE curriculum offered in any school incorporates age-appropriate elements of effective and evidence-based programs on the importance of the personal privacy and personal boundaries of other individuals and tools for a student to use to ensure that he/she respects the personal privacy and personal boundaries of other individuals.

The FLE curriculum may incorporate age-appropriate elements of effective and evidence-based programs on the prevention, recognition, and awareness of child abduction, child abuse, child sexual exploitation and child sexual abuse.

Community Involvement Team

The School Health Advisory Board (SHAB) shall serve as the community involvement team. SHAB members provide input to staff regarding new instructional and resource materials and changes in family life curriculum.

Instructional Materials

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall approve all instructional materials used in family life education (FLE), as well as all materials relating to FLE available for circulation to students through the school libraries or resource and media centers. In addition, K-10 grade-level curriculum guides are posted on the ACPS website.

Staff Training

No teacher is permitted to teach any portion of the FLE curriculum unless he/she has completed the “Sexuality Education for Teachers” course (or an equivalent course offering, including a blended-learning format) OR has provided a college transcript that documents successful completion of a similar course.

Additionally, all employees responsible for adapting the Family Life Education curriculum for students with disabilities shall participate in specially designed professional development to ensure that appropriate modifications and differentiation occurs and is integrated into the written curriculum.

Separate Sessions

ACPS may conduct selected lessons in the FLE program that deal exclusively with human sexuality in separate classes for boys and girls.

Parent Training

The Division shall provide parent orientation to support understanding of the purpose and design of the Family Life Education program and its curriculum. Such training and orientation sessions can occur in a variety of venues, including the Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Centers, Parent Resource Center, PTA/PTSA meetings, and other contexts.

“Opt-out” Procedures

All K-10 students shall be instructed in Family Life Education unless parents/guardians have chosen to exempt them from all or part of the FLE program. Exemption, or “opt-out” procedures, are included in the Welcome Packet at the beginning of each school year or upon enrollment, and are found on the ACPS website.

Students with IEPs

The Superintendent or designee shall provide modified instruction in family life education for students with individualized education programs, when needed.

Annual Review

ACPS shall review the FLE curriculum annually. Such review shall allow for community input. The Department of Curriculum and Instruction will make available the FLE curriculum for public comment.

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. A copy of the family life curriculum shall be available in each school’s library media center during a designated date and time.

ACPS shall prepare and make available a summary of the family life program designed to assist parents/guardians in understanding the program and to encourage parental involvement in the instruction of students in family life education. Such information shall reflect the curriculum of the program as taught in the classroom. The following statement will be included in 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: January 9, 1997

Amended: July 1, 2005

Amended: June 11, 2015

Amended: October 27, 2016

Amended: April 25, 2019

Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1- 207.1:1; 22.1-207.2.

8 VAC 2-131-170.

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