

FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION (FLE)

I. GENERALLY

Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) provides Family Life Education (FLE) based on the FLE Standards of Learning (SOL) and curriculum guidelines developed by the Virginia Board of Education. Parents/guardians may exempt their child from FLE.

II. CURRICULA

- 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, sexual violence, human trafficking of children, and the law and meaning of consent. Such age-appropriate elements of effective and evidence-based programs on the prevention of sexual violence *may* include instruction that increases student awareness of the fact that consent is required before sexual activity.

- Secondary Schools

The SOL objectives related to dating violence and the characteristics of abusive relationships are taught at least once in middle school and at least twice in high school.

- All Schools

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 the student respects the personal privacy and personal boundaries of other individuals. The FLE curriculum incorporates age-appropriate elements of effective and evidence-based programs on the harmful physical and emotional effects of sexual abuse including female genital mutilation; associated criminal penalties; and the rights of the victim, including any civil action pursuant to Va. Code § 8.01-42.5.

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 child sexual abuse, and in any such curriculum offered in high school, human trafficking of children.

- Students with IEPs

46 ACPS provides modified FLE instruction for students with Individualized
47 Education Programs (IEPs) when needed.
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49 The School Board reviews its FLE curriculum at least once every seven years, evaluates
50 whether it reflects contemporary community standards, and revises it if necessary.
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52 **III. Right of Review**

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54 A parent or guardian has the right to review the family life curricula, including all
55 supplemental materials used in the program. A complete copy of all printed materials not
56 subject to copyright protection and a description of all audio-visual materials is made
57 available through any available parent/guardian portal and kept in each school's library
58 media center or office and made available for review to any parent/guardian during school
59 office hours before and during the school year. The audio-visual materials are made
60 available to parents/guardians for in-person review, upon request, on the same basis as
61 printed materials are made available.
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63 ACPS develops a summary of the family life curricula designed to assist parents/guardians
64 in understanding the program and to encourage parental involvement in the instruction of
65 students in family life education. The summary is distributed to the parents/guardians of
66 students participating in the FLE program and is posted on the ACPS website. Such
67 information reflects the curricula of the program as taught in the classroom. The following
68 statement will be included in the summary: *"Parents and guardians have the right to*
69 *review the Family Life Education Program offered by their school division, including*
70 *written and audio-visual educational materials used in the program. Parents and*
71 *guardians also have the right to excuse their child from all or part of Family Life Education*
72 *instruction."*
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74 **IV. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

75 The School Health Advisory Board (SHAB) serves as the community involvement team.
76 SHAB members provide input to staff regarding new instructional and resource materials
77 and changes to FLE curriculum.
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80 Adopted: January 9, 1997
81 Amended: July 1, 2005
82 Amended: June 11, 2015
83 Amended: October 27, 2016
84 Amended: April 25, 2019
85 Amended: December 16, 2021
86 Amended: December 15, 2022
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88 Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-207.1, 22.1- 207.1:1, 22.1-207.2.
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91 *Family Life Education: Board of Education Guidelines and Standards of Learning for Virginia*
92 *Public Schools*, Virginia Department of Education (Revised September 2016).

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| 94 | Cross Refs.: | BCF |
| 95 | | IIA |
| 96 | | INB |
| 97 | | KLB |
| | | Advisory Committees to the School Board |
| | | Instructional Materials |
| | | Teaching About Controversial Issues |
| | | Public Complaints About Learning Resources |