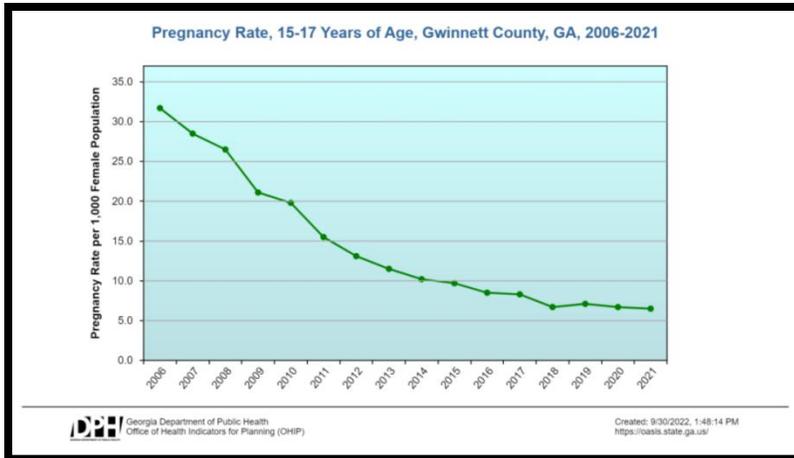


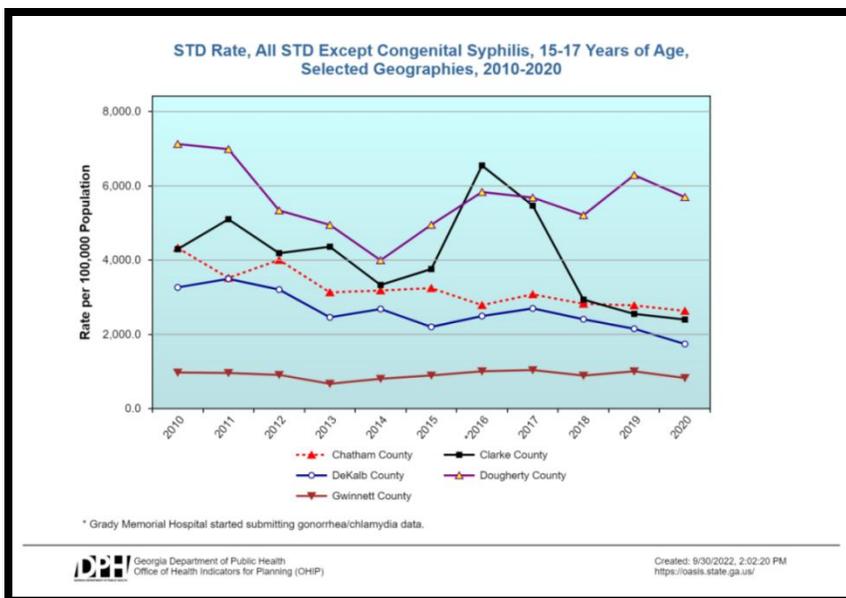
The month of October 2022 is crucial! Your input is needed to help protect Gwinnett students!

Gwinnett County Public School Sex Education Program Change

For many years, GCPS has utilized an excellent abstinence based sex education program called *Choosing the Best*. This program, which has been updated through the years, **strongly promotes abstinence** by teaching students respect for themselves and others and the benefits of saving sex for marriage. It has been well received by both parents and students and has been **very effective**. Gwinnett's **teen pregnancy rate has decreased 75%** and its teen pregnancy and STD rates have been consistently lower than most of metro Atlanta and Georgia.



Gwinnett's Teen Pregnancy Rate while using *Choosing the Best* Abstinence based program



Teen STD Rate of Gwinnett which uses *Choosing the Best* compared to GA Counties with Comprehensive Sex Education programs (CSE) that promote condoms to teens (Chatham, Clarke, DeKalb and Dougherty)

But this could be the last year GCPS teaches sexual abstinence to students!

Under the current school board, GCPS decided **not** to obtain the most updated *Choosing the Best* edition. Instead, GCPS plans to use *HealthSmart* and Goodheart-Wilcox's *Essential Health Skills*, programs being piloted right now in some Gwinnett schools. ***HealthSmart* is published by ETR, a company started by Planned Parenthood** to publish comprehensive sex education (CSE). *Essential Health Skills Human Sexuality Supplement* is also CSE.

What can Gwinnett parents and citizens do about this?

From October 1-31, 2022 only, you will have an opportunity to view *HealthSmart* and *Essential Health Skills Human Sexuality Supplement* online and comment on them. To do this, go to: <https://www.gcpsk12.org/Page/34274>

To View: Scroll to "Select your areas of interest below to review the available pilot resources." Under "Subject area", select "Health". Then choose which grade levels you want to view.

To Comment: Go back to <https://www.gcpsk12.org/Page/34274> and choose the link for grade levels to comment.

What are some concerns in the *HealthSmart* and *Essential Health Skills* programs being piloted?

HealthSmart in 5th grade:

- * *Lesson 36* teaches students that **gender identity can differ from biological sex**.
- * *Lessons 34 & 35* shown to all students, depict a boy's changing body and a girl's changing body with diagrams and discussions of intimate body parts. It is not stated that these are to be shown with boys and girls separated.
- * *Lesson 37* teaches students to wait to have sex; yet they have not been taught about menstruation or sex yet.

HealthSmart Middle School, Abstinence, Puberty, Personal Health:

- * *Lesson 4* promotes and teaches detailed sexual orientation and gender identity ideology to students, expecting them to know all definitions. Middle school students who are not interested in having sex are labeled “asexual”.
- * *Lessons 5 & 6*-Detailed, **graphic drawings of external genitalia** of both sexes are shown to all students. The words girl/woman/female and boy/man/male are not used; terms used are “**body with a vagina**” and “**body with a penis**”.
- * *Lessons 10 & 11*- Abstinence is defined as “choosing not to do any sexual activity that can result in pregnancy or STDs.” Under this definition, some sexual activities and “sexting” can be defined as abstinence. (In *HealthSmart*, saving sex for marriage is never mentioned; **the danger of viewing pornography is never mentioned**.)

HealthSmart Middle School, HIV, STI, Pregnancy Prevention:

- * *Lesson 3*--Students learn through classroom role play how they can negotiate which activities they want to do with each other by learning how to compromise. This lesson teaches them how to give or obtain “consent” before having sex.
- * *Lessons 12 & 14* --Students can “safely” have sex if they use condoms and birth control. Students learn how to use and obtain condoms without parental knowledge. **Teacher demonstrates condom use** by putting a condom on his or her own finger. (NOTE: does not discuss emotional consequences of teen sex; does not share condom failure rates with students or health effects of hormonal contraceptives.)



HealthSmart Middle School slide

Essential Health Skills Middle School, Human Sexuality online supplement Chapter 19:

Detailed, confusing discussion of sexual orientation and gender identity ideology. Sexual intercourse is defined as “**any sexual activity that involves penetration or inserting of a body part or object into another body part**”. Abstinence is simply waiting till ready for sex or till you find the right partner. Promotes hormonal contraceptives.

HealthSmart High School, Abstinence, Puberty, Personal Health:

- * *Lesson 7* promotes and teaches detailed sexual orientation and gender identity ideology to students, expecting them to know all definitions. High school students who are not interested in having sex are labeled “asexual”.
- * *Lesson 8*--Detailed, **graphic drawings of external genitalia** of both sexes are shown to all students. The words girl/woman/female and boy/man/male are not used; terms used are “**body with a vagina**” and “**body with a penis**”.
- * *Lessons 10*-- Abstinence is defined as “choosing not to do any sexual activity that can result in pregnancy or STDs.” Under this definition, some sexual activities can be defined as abstinence, including sexting.
- * *Lesson 12*—Media influences are discussed but the **danger of viewing pornography is never mentioned**.

HealthSmart High School, HIV, STI, Pregnancy Prevention:

- * *Lesson 3*—Students learn that either being abstinent or having teen sex while using condoms and contraceptives are both “healthy behaviors”. Emotional consequences of teen sex are not discussed.
- * *Lesson 4*--Students learn through classroom role play how they can negotiate which sexual activities they want to do with others by learning how to compromise and **how to give and obtain “consent” before having sex**.
- * *Lessons 5*--Students learn they can “safely” have sex if they use contraception to reduce pregnancy. All methods are taught, but program does not share side effects or long term health effects of hormonal contraceptives.
- * *Lessons 6 & 7*—students learn they can “safely” have sex if they use condoms to prevent STIs and HIV. **Failure rates of condoms are not taught**. (According to CDC, condoms have a 15% failure rate against HIV; 50% against gonorrhea and chlamydia; and offer very little protection against syphilis, HPV or herpes)
- * *Lesson 11*—**Condom hunt**—students need to find out about 4 brands, describe them, find out what store or agencies carry them (including free condoms) and then **practice putting condoms on their own fingers in class**.

Essential Health Skills High School, Human Sexuality online supplement, Chapter 23 and 24:

Worse than middle school; directs students to 3rd party websites that **promote radical pro-abortion, pro-LGBT and sexually graphic resources**.