

Date:

Dear Parent/ Guardian:

The Maryland State Board of Education requires that each school system provide instruction about Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). The Howard County Public School System will provide instruction in grades 4-12.

In Health Education, students receive instruction related to HIV/AIDS instruction in Grades 6, 8, and 9. HIV/AIDS education will stress the importance of good health habits such as abstinence from sexual intercourse and refraining from the use of IV drugs and sharing needles. Education about HIV/AIDS may also be included in special school programs such as the DisAbility Awareness Day and Wellness Days. You as a parent/guardian may request that your child be excluded from HIV/AIDS instruction and other activities that provide information about HIV/AIDS. Please carefully consider your decision before requesting exclusion. HIV/AIDS education is critical in preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS.

If you elect to **request exclusion** of HIV/AIDS instruction in Health Education, sign the statement below and return it to your child's school immediately.

Should you have questions, please contact your child's teacher.

EXCLUSION FROM HIV/AIDS INSTRUCTION
(Return only if you DO NOT want your child to receive HIV/AIDS instruction)

I DO **NOT** want to have my child participate in HIV/AIDS prevention instruction.

Child's Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____