

PIN OAK MIDDLE SCHOOL

**4601 Glenmont
Bellaire, Texas 77401**

**Susan Monaghan
Principal**

**Albert Fernandez
Shantelle Louis
Waymon Moore
House Principals**

Dear Parents:

Health Education is an instructional program that addresses critical issues that affect the life, living, and learning of students. This comprehensive program focuses on the knowledge and skills students need to help them practice positive behaviors and avoid risk-taking behaviors. The main goal of the program is to empower students when making decisions and taking responsibility for their personal health and well-being.

As mandated by the state and required by the district, students in grades 6-8 will be enrolled in a health education class for six weeks. These courses include factual information about physical development, sexually transmitted diseases, teen pregnancy, substance abuse, gangs, and violence. The curriculum is an abstinence-based document that stresses “abstinence” from all harmful behaviors and particularly the importance of abstaining from sexual activity before marriage.

All health education instructional materials were reviewed by an advisory committee of parents, teachers, administrators, clergy, and health professionals. The curriculum guides were developed by master teachers and approved by the Board of Education. Health classes are taught by certified Health and Physical Education teachers who have received training regarding the sensitive delivery of critical health issues.

Please be reminded that health education classes are required. However, your child may be exempted from the Human Sexuality Unit when it becomes a personal concern. A formal request for student exemption must be addressed in writing and forwarded to the school principal. You are encouraged to discuss all health topics with your children, visit health classes, and review health instructional materials at your convenience.

If further information is needed, call the HISD Health and Physical Education Department at (713)556-6891.

Sincerely,

Susan J. Monaghan
Principal