



## ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 25

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September 7, 2016

Dear AHSD 25 Middle School Families,

This quarter we will begin implementing state-mandated sexual abuse prevention education for middle school students through the health classes.

“Erin’s Law,” was first passed in Illinois in January of 2013 and since then, 25 other states have adopted the law. Erin Law is named after Erin Merryn, a native of Schaumburg, IL and a childhood sexual assault survivor, author, speaker and activist.

Erin’s Law is prevention-based, bringing sexual abuse education into public schools using age appropriate techniques. Thanks to Erin’s Law, children are being taught to recognize abuse and learning what to do if they need assistance. Erin’s Law requires all public schools to provide education on sexual abuse prevention for all students, early childhood through twelfth grade, yearly. This law also requires educators to take part in training classes that cover sexual abuse and how to recognize warning signs.

We understand that this can be a sensitive topic for some families, and we wish to give you, as parents/guardians, the opportunity to learn more about this program.

On September 21st, we will hold an information night for middle school parents/guardians who wish to learn more about this initiative. The informational night will take place in the multipurpose room at the AHSD 25 Administration Building (1200 S. Dunton Ave, Arlington Heights, IL 60005) from 6:00-6:45 pm pm. If you are unable to attend the program, last year’s presentation is posted on the Student Services page on the District website. An information night for parents of children in Early Childhood through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be held in early December.

The curriculum from Erin’s Law will be implemented in your child’s health class and will occupy one period of that class. As was done last year, district social workers will provide this year’s instruction. As previously communicated, parents will have the option to opt out of participation on behalf of their children, as they see appropriate.

To access this opt out form, go to the district web site ([www.sd25.org](http://www.sd25.org)), click on the **Departments** tab and then the **Student Services**, and **Social Emotional**. Please return the form to your child’s school. I have attached the form to this email for your convenience.

If you have additional questions or concerns about Erin’s Law, please feel free to contact me at (847) 758-4875 or via email at [aleblanc@sd25.org](mailto:aleblanc@sd25.org)

Respectfully,

Aimée LeBlanc  
Assistant Superintendent for Student Services