

## Parent Survey

### Health and Physical Education Curriculum, Grades 1–8

### Human Development and Sexual Health

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**REFERENCE COPY:** This document is being provided **for your reference**. A unique single-use URL link will be provided to principals of publicly funded elementary schools and Parent Involvement Committee chairs. These groups will share the link with parent representatives so they can access and complete the survey.

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Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey about Ontario's Health and Physical Education Curriculum.

This survey will take up to 20 minutes to complete.

All of your answers will remain anonymous. You will not be asked to provide your name and you will not be identified. Neither Pollara Strategic Insights, nor the Ministry of Education, knows the identity of parents who have been invited to complete the survey.

Click here to read or download a fact sheet on the curriculum development process, changes to the Health and Physical Education Curriculum (Grades 1-8) and frequently asked questions.

If you require any technical assistance, please contact [surveys@pollara.com](mailto:surveys@pollara.com)



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#### Demographic Information

Including yourself, please indicate how many people live in your household? For children, this can be full or part time.

\_\_\_ Adults

\_\_\_ Children

And how many of the children living in your home are in each grade range? (Please enter the number of children beside each grade range.)

\_\_\_ kindergarten or younger

\_\_\_ grades 1-3

\_\_\_ grades 4-6

\_\_\_ grades 7-8

\_\_\_ grades 9-12

\_\_\_ beyond secondary school

#### Terminology

The term *curriculum* is used throughout this survey. In Ontario, “curriculum documents describe the knowledge and skills that students are expected to know and be able to demonstrate by the end of each grade or course.” For the purposes of today’s survey, please try to think of your child(ren), their learning and the curriculum from grade 1 through grade 8.

The term *parent(s)* is used to refer to parent(s) and guardian(s).

**How familiar would you say you are with the following aspects of your child(ren)’s education. Would you say that you are very familiar, somewhat familiar, not very familiar or not at all familiar?**

- The overall knowledge and skills your child(ren) is/are acquiring at school.
- The knowledge and skills your child(ren) is/are acquiring in health and physical education class.
- The way curriculum is developed in Ontario.



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#### Needs of Students Today and In the Future

**Now thinking about the needs of students today and in the future, please indicate how much you agree with the following statements. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree or don't know?**

- It is important for my child(ren) to be learning from a curriculum that is grounded in current research.
- It would be helpful for me, as a parent, to understand what topics, concepts and approaches are in the curriculum.
- Young people should have a say in what knowledge, skills and information they are expected to learn through the school curriculum.
- It is important that curriculum is reviewed and updated regularly to keep up with the changing skills and knowledge children and youth need to thrive in today's world.
- It is important that the health and physical education curriculum includes concepts and topics that are relevant to children and youth so they do not seek information from unreliable sources.

#### Age-Appropriateness

**Thinking now about your impressions of age-appropriateness in the school curriculum, please indicate how much you agree with the following statements. Would you say you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree or don't know?**

- I believe that it's important for my child to learn about sexual health concepts before they face a situation where they may need the information.
- I think that the school curriculum should include opportunities for my child(ren) to learn about the safe use of social media.
- It is important that my child(ren) learn about expected changes during puberty before their bodies begin to change.
- I believe that the school should teach my child about both the risks of sexual activities and about ways to make safe and healthy choices regarding their sexual health.
- It is important to me that the school curriculum supports students in having the knowledge and skills that allow them to make healthy, safe and informed choices.



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#### Supporting all Students

Please think now about inclusiveness in the school curriculum. By inclusiveness we mean factors such as ethnicity, sex, physical or intellectual ability, religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic status and other similar factors. With this in mind, please indicate whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements – or indicate if you don't know.

- I believe that it's important that my child(ren) see themselves reflected in the curriculum.
- It is important to me that my child(ren) are exposed to all kinds of diversity through the school curriculum.

#### Roles of Schools and Parents

This next question deals with the role of parents/guardians in learning about sexual health. Please indicate how much you agree with the following statements using a scale of strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree or don't know.

- I feel confident in my own knowledge about sexual health topics and concepts.
- I feel confident having discussions with my child(ren) about sexual health topics and concepts.
- My child(ren) face challenges today, such as access to information on the Internet, social media and cyber-bullying that I didn't, so I am a little unsure how to address these topics.
- I would like to be informed about what my child is learning in school, including when my child is learning about sexual health, so that I can discuss this learning with my child at home.

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**How much would you say you trust each of the following sources of health information, in terms of providing reliable and accurate information on sexual health to your child(ren). Would you say that each of the following is very trustworthy, somewhat trustworthy, not very trustworthy or not at all trustworthy?**

- Doctor/Nurse
- You/your partner
- Public Health/Health Organization
- Child’s friends and peers
- Internet
- Social media (e.g. Facebook)
- Other media, including TV, movies, music videos and magazines
- School curriculum/teacher
- Reference/non-fiction books

### Parent Resources

**Would you say that you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree that you would find it helpful if there was a resource that:**

- Describes what skills and knowledge my child will be learning in a particular grade in health and physical education.
- Explains why my child is learning about a specific topic or concept in health and physical education curriculum in a specific grade.
- Provides tips for parents for discussing topics or concepts related to the health and physical education curriculum.

**Please indicate how likely you would be to use each of the following from the school about the Health and Physical Education curriculum. Would you say you would be very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely or not at all likely to:**

- Read a pamphlet or fact-sheet(s) on different aspects of the curriculum.
- Read a guide to the curriculum.
- Visit an Internet page containing relevant information about the curriculum.
- Have a discussion with the teacher about the classroom program.



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**Please indicate which of the following apply to you. Have you:**

- Reviewed any of the Ontario curriculum documents in the past two years?
- Attended a curriculum night at your child's school in the past two years where educators describe what your child is learning?
- Received information from the teacher or school about the curriculum and your child's learning in school (from website, newsletters, teacher meetings) in the last two years?
- Read the parents backgrounder on curriculum provided in the invitation to complete this survey?
- None of the above.

[The next four questions only appear if the respondent indicates that the corresponding statement(s) above apply to them.]

You indicated that you reviewed some Ontario curriculum documents in the past two years. **Have you reviewed the Health and Physical Education curriculum document in the past two years?**

Yes  No

You indicated that you have attended a curriculum night at your child's school in the past two years. **Have you received information about what your child is learning in Health and Physical Education at a curriculum night in the last two years?**

Yes  No

You indicated that you received information from the teacher or school about the curriculum and your child's learning in school. **Has any of this information from the teacher or school been about the Health and Physical Education curriculum (from website, newsletters, teacher meetings) and your child's learning in this subject in the last two years?**

Yes  No

**And thinking of the parents' backgrounder on curriculum that you recently read, did you find it to be very helpful, somewhat helpful, not very helpful or not at all helpful?**



support every child  
reach every student



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**Any Other Comments**

Please provide any additional comments you wish to share.

**Demographic Information (continued)**

And finally, just a few more demographic questions to help us with our analysis. These responses will be used only to assist us in segmenting data and will not be used in any identifiable way.

**School Board**

To assist us in assessing regional balance in terms of responses, please select your school board or authority from the drop down list below.

**Postal Code**

To better understand how results vary by communities of different sizes, please indicate the first three digits of your postal code.

beginning of postal code                       I would prefer not to answer.

**Role**

**Are you a:**

mother

father

guardian

I would prefer not to answer.

