



John C. Coonley Elementary School

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Brennen Humphrey
Principal

Sarah McLinden
Assistant Principal

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Dear 5th Grade Families,

I am writing to let you know about an upcoming program. On **Wednesday, December 1st**, Candor Health Education will be at Coonley to present their program, **Puberty I - Understanding Changes**, to 5th grade students.

Candor Health Education (formerly Robert Crown Center) is a nonprofit organization that educates students, their trusted adults and communities on the topics of puberty, sex and drug education. They provide science-based information in a safe, engaging environment so students gain age-appropriate knowledge which prepares them to make informed decisions that positively impact their health. Candor Health is a CPS approved community based organization (CBO) that offers sexual health instruction. In previous years, Coonley 5th graders would go on a field trip to Robert Crown Center. Candor Health Education now brings their programming directly to schools.

Puberty I - Understanding Changes, is an SEL infused class taught through storytelling and age-appropriate scenarios and is designed to help students understand puberty. It compares female and male reproductive anatomy and introduces the physiological changes that occur during adolescence. This class will be taught in a mixed gender setting. The class is 90 minutes in length and led by a Candor Health Education staff member. With their homeroom teacher, students will complete short pre-learning (30-40 min) a few days before the program and post-learning (20 min) after the program. Candor Health Education has provided [a parent letter](#) with additional information (see the following pages)

In alignment with Illinois law (“No pupil shall be required to take or participate in any class or course on AIDS or family life instruction if his parent or guardian submits written objection thereto, and refusal to take or participate in the course or program shall not be reason for suspension or expulsion of the pupil.” 105 ILCS 110/3), a parent/guardian must provide a timely written objection to opt their child/children out of participating in any sexual health education course. No student with a written parental objection will be suspended or expelled for refusal to participate in any such course. If you wish to have your child excused from participation in this program on December 1st, please inform your child’s homeroom teacher in writing.

In Partnership,

Ms. Humphrey
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