



TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

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May 4, 2022

VIA FACSIMILE, REGULAR AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

<p>Kathy Goldenberg President New Jersey State Board of Education Judge Robert L. Carter Building 100 Riverview Plaza P.O. Box 500 Trenton, NJ 08625-0500</p>	<p>Commissioner Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D Department of Education 100 Riverview Plaza P.O. Box 500 Trenton, NJ 08625-0500</p>
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**RE: 2020 New Jersey Student Learning Standards
Comprehensive Health and Physical Education - Sex Education Standards**

Dear President Goldenberg, Members of the New Jersey State Board of Education and
Commissioner Allen-McMillan:

We are writing this correspondence on behalf of the majority of the Toms River Regional Schools Board of Education to voice concern for our students regarding the Comprehensive Health and Physical Education - Sex Education Standards. It was the consensus of the Board that it is proper, and in fact necessary to write to you regarding the 2020 New Jersey Student Learning Standards Comprehensive Health and Physical Education - Sex Education Standards ("Sex Education Standards"). We write to implore you to delay indefinitely the implementation of the Sex Education Standards contained in the 2020 New Jersey Student Learning Standards ("NJSLS") as currently written and adopted by the New Jersey Board of Education.

Our District's Administration reviewed the Sex Education Standards contained in the NJSLS and advised the Board that they find some of the content to be age inappropriate, especially for grades two through fifth. Moreover, the Board has independently reviewed the Sex Education Standards and concurs with the recommendations of not only our administration,

but of our parents and our community, that some of the Sex Education Standards are not age appropriate for our students. Further, we find that the content of the 2014 standards was and remains appropriate, especially for our younger students. The disparity between the 2014 standards and some of the 2020 Sex Education Standards has caused confusion among and concerns by board members, administrators, curriculum supervisors, teachers, parents, and community stakeholders alike. We respectfully submit that the implementation of the Sex Education Standards be delayed until a more detailed review of the pedagogy behind the Sex Education Standards is complete. Moreover, prior to their application, we request clarity from the Department and the State Board as to why the 2020 Sex Education Standards are necessary and in the best interest of our students.

Should you have any questions, require additional information, or would like to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact us or Superintendent Michael S. Citta. Thank you in advance for your attention, consideration, and courtesy.

Very truly yours,

s/ *Jennifer Howe*
Jennifer Howe
President

s/ *Alex Mizenko*
Alex Mizenko
Vice President

cc: Governor Philip D. Murphy
Senator James W. Holzapfel
Assemblyman Gregory P. McGuckin
Assemblyman John Catalano