August 30, 2010

Dear Parents:

The Board of Education has established a program in reproductive health and sexually transmitted diseases (including HIV/AIDS) through the Sex Education Advisory Committee. Members of this committee, representing parents, the community, educators, clergy, and health care professionals, meet periodically to review and recommend program updates and revisions. Their recommendations are then forwarded to the Board of Education for approval. This committee has been in operation since 1984, and the curriculum has been in place since 1988, with annual reviews and updates. We thank the many conscientious parents and citizens who have served our students through this important advisory panel.

Over the past five years, the State laws governing Health Education have undergone numerous changes. The most recent changes further clarified the requirements for parent notification and review of the curriculum. I have described below the means provided by the Vicksburg Schools to assist parents and/or legal guardians in exercising their parental options under the most recent legislative guidelines.

Enclosed with this letter, you will find a summary for the specific areas of instruction provided at each grade level. Instruction relating to Reproductive Health (including sexually transmitted diseases) will not begin until after October 4th in grades 7 and 9. Elementary instruction will take place in the spring of 2011. Notification will be sent home with all 4th and 5th graders prior to instruction.

Parents and/or legal guardians who wish to review the materials and specific outcomes for each grade level or course should contact their child's building principal rather than the Superintendent's office. Parents may make arrangements to observe the instruction their children receive in reproductive health and sexually transmitted diseases. Parents may use the form on the back of this letter if they wish to have their child excused from any portion of the reproductive health curriculum. The exclusion form should be returned to your child's building principal by October 4, 2010.

It is our intent to assist parents in every way possible in understanding their child's education program. Please use this notification letter to assist you in reviewing the Vicksburg Reproductive Health Education Program and feel free to contact your child's building principal for any further information. You will find their names and phone numbers listed below:

Indian Lake Elementary	Rick Szabla	321-1400/649-2159
Sunset Lake Elementary	Pat Moreno	321-1500/649-2632
Tobey Elementary	Mike Barwegen	321-1600
Vicksburg Middle School	Greg Tibbetts	321-1300/649-0552
Vicksburg High School	Keevin O'Neill	321-1100/649-0554

Sincerely,

Charles Glaes Superintendent