

**Erin's Law and Comprehensive Health Education:
Section 59-32-20 (B) of the South Carolina Code of Laws**

Erin's Law

"Erin's Law", a 2014 amendment passed by the South Carolina Legislature to the Comprehensive Health Act, requires instruction in the prevention of child sexual abuse for all students in grades K-12. Section 59-32-30(G) of the South Carolina Code of Laws was amended for school districts to provide age appropriate instruction in personal safety, sexual abuse and assault awareness, and prevention. The goal of "Erin's Law" is to teach students how to stay safe from sexual abuse and how to report any incidents of sexual abuse or assault they may have encountered. Additional information can be found at <http://www.erinslaw.org/>.

"Erin's Law" requires that public schools implement a prevention-oriented child abuse program that teaches:

- Students in grades Pre-kindergarten-12th grade age-appropriate techniques to recognize child sexual abuse and tell a trusted adult;
- School personnel all about sexual abuse; and
- Parent and guardians the warning signs of child sexual abuse, plus needed assistance, referral or resource information to support sexually abused children and their families.

Instructional units for Erin's Law have been developed and written by the State Department of Education and aligned with the South Carolina Academic Standards for Health and Safety Education to be used by school districts as a resource guide. Our guidance counselors, health and physical education teachers, and classroom teachers may utilize, in whole or in part, the State approved curriculum materials. Parents and guardians are also encouraged to discuss all health safety topics with their children specific to Erin's Law. Darkness to Light (D2L) is an excellent resources for parents and families. Please see the website <https://www.d2l.org/>.

Links to these resources are included here:

<https://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t59c032.php>

<https://ed.sc.gov/index.cfm?LinkServID=9F2D43B9-B8FB-1EBD-A5CC729876902311>

Faculty and Staff Members go through Safe School Trainings that are assigned through the District yearly and have gone through the Darkness to Light Training.

NOTE: "Erin's Law" was introduced in Illinois and is named for Erin Merryn, a childhood sexual assault survivor, author, speaker, and activist. Erin is the founder and President of Erin's Law, a non-profit social welfare organization.