



EXCELSIOR HIGH SCHOOL

May 03, 2023.

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

On Monday April 17, I was introduced to a representative of the “Her Flow Foundation” who enquired about making a presentation to our students on reproductive health. The idea was welcomed and a date set. Information was then requested and received on what would be disseminated to the students.

An email was received on April 25 with the general information. Based on this, I then asked that only the girls would be selected for the presentation as it was solely on menstruation and menstrual hygiene.

On Monday May 1, the group was introduced to girls of Grades 7,9 and 10 along with some staff members.

The presentation lasted from 8:00am until 11:00am and it was very informative, engaging and lively. Based on reports collected from both teachers and students, all the information presented and activities done related to the menstrual topic. Sanitary napkins and pouches were also left with me to be distributed to the girls. The girls told me they enjoyed the session and learned a lot.

It was with shock and dismay; that I was greeted the following day with the knowledge that a book in the packages handed out to some girls was found to be offensive. These packages were prepared by the ‘Her Flow’ team so we were not privy to its contents as the assumption made was that the packages contained only menstrual related products.

An understandably irate parent visited the school early the day following the presentation and made us aware of the contents within the book. This parent also provided us with her copy as we had none. The content was quickly reviewed, and attempts were immediately made to retrieve the books. I have been visiting the various groups and outlining the sequence of events, requesting the return of the books and offering apologies to the girls.

Parent and guardians, I offer my sincerest apologies at this most unfortunate and regretful occurrence. Please rest assured that such a book and its contents are not information that Excelsior High School will disseminate to our students. It is sad that the presentation on menstrual health has now been devalued due to this unauthorised book.

The book may be returned to me or destroyed as you see fit.

Again, sincere apologies for any discomfort caused.

Marlene Grey-Tomlinson
Vice Principal - Students Affairs