

CSBA Sample Board Policy

Instruction

BP 6142.7(a)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY

Note: The following **optional** policy may be revised to reflect district practice and the grade levels offered by the district. See the accompanying administrative regulation for definitions of "physical education" and "physical activity" based on the California Department of Education's (CDE) 2009 Physical Education Framework for California Public Schools.

The federal Child Nutrition and Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Reauthorization Act of 2004 (42 USC 1751 Note) mandates each district participating in federal meals programs to adopt a districtwide student wellness policy, including goals for physical activity. See BP 5030 - Student Wellness for language fulfilling this mandate. The following policy also may incorporate goals for physical activity.

Education Code 33352 requires the CDE, as part of the Categorical Program Monitoring (CPM) process, to monitor districts' compliance with specified state physical education requirements which are reflected in the following policy and the accompanying administrative regulation.

The Governing Board recognizes the positive benefits of physical activity on student health and academic achievement. The district shall provide all students the opportunity to be physically active on a regular basis through high-quality physical education instruction and may provide additional opportunities for physical activity throughout the school day. The district's physical education and activity programs shall support the district's coordinated student wellness program and encourage students' lifelong fitness.

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)

(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)

Note: Education Code 51210 and 51220 require the district's course of study for grades 1-12 to include physical education, with an emphasis on physical activities conducive to health and vigor of body and mind; see AR 6143 - Courses of Study. The CDE's 2009 Physical Education Framework describes components of a comprehensive physical education program based on the voluntary Physical Education Model Content Standards adopted by the State Board of Education (SBE).

The district's physical education program shall provide a developmentally appropriate sequence of instruction aligned with the state's model content standards and curriculum framework. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's program provides students with equal opportunities for instruction and participation regardless of gender in accordance with law.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

Note: The following two **optional** paragraphs are for use by districts that maintain high schools.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY (continued)

According to the CDE's Physical Education Framework, it is the obligation of the Governing Board to determine whether to grant physical education credit for a particular course, including, but not limited to, junior ROTC, marching band, cheerleading, or drill team. In making this determination, the Board must determine how the particular course supports an overall course of study for grades 9-12 that includes the eight content areas specified in Education Code 33352 and 5 CCR 10060 for physical education programs. While it is not necessary that each individual course include all eight content areas, the course offerings must be structured so that all students receive opportunities for instruction in each of the eight areas across grades 9-12. The CDE's Physical Education FAQs add that any course for which physical education credit is granted must also meet requirements in Education Code 33352 pertaining to minimum instructional minutes, various reporting requirements, and the assignment of an appropriately credentialed teacher.

The overall course of study for grades 9-12 shall include the effects of physical activity upon dynamic health, the mechanics of body movement, aquatics, gymnastics and tumbling, individual and dual sports, rhythms and dance, team sports, and combatives. (Education Code 33352; 5 CCR 10060)

The Board shall approve the courses in grades 9-12 for which physical education credit may be granted.

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)
(cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits Toward Graduation)

Note: The following **optional** paragraph is for use by all districts and may be revised to reflect district practice. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) 2008 Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans recommends that children and adolescents participate in at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity per day, which can be accrued in smaller increments throughout the day. To help reach this goal, HHS recommends that students be engaged in moderate to vigorous physical activity for at least 50 percent of physical education class time. See the accompanying administrative regulation for definitions of "moderate physical activity" and "vigorous physical activity." Also see CSBA's Fact Sheet on Moderate to Vigorous Physical Activity in Physical Education to Improve Health and Academic Outcomes.

The district's physical education program shall engage students in moderate to vigorous physical activity, as defined in the accompanying administrative regulation, for at least 50 percent of class or session time. The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies to monitor the amount of moderate to vigorous physical activity that takes place in the physical education instructional program.

Students with disabilities shall be provided instruction in physical education in accordance with their individualized education program or Section 504 accommodation plan.

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)
(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

During air pollution episodes, extreme weather, or other inclement conditions, physical education staff shall make appropriate adjustments to the program or shall seek alternative indoor space to enable students to participate in active physical education.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY (continued)

(cf. 3514 - Environmental Safety)

(cf. 5141.7 - Sun Safety)

Staffing

Physical education instruction shall be delivered by appropriately credentialed teachers who may be assisted by instructional aides, paraprofessionals, and/or volunteers.

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 4112.2 - Certification)

(cf. 4222 - Teacher Aides/Paraprofessionals)

The district shall provide physical education teachers with continuing professional development, including classroom management and instructional strategies designed to keep students engaged and active and to enhance the quality of physical education instruction and assessment.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

(cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

Physical Fitness Testing

Note: The following section may be revised to reflect grade levels offered by the district. Education Code 60800 requires districts to administer a physical fitness test to students in grades 5, 7, and 9. The SBE has designated FITNESSGRAM as the required physical fitness test. See the accompanying administrative regulation for testing requirements.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually administer the physical fitness test designated by the State Board of Education to students in grades 5, 7, and 9. (Education Code 60800; 5 CCR 1041)

Temporary Exemptions

Note: The following section is **optional**. Education Code 51241 authorizes, but does not require, the district to grant temporary exemptions from physical education under the conditions described in items #1-2 below.

The Superintendent or designee may grant a temporary exemption from physical education under either of the following conditions: (Education Code 51241)

1. The student is ill or injured and a modified program to meet his/her needs cannot be provided.
2. The student is enrolled for one-half time or less.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY (continued)**Two-Year Exemptions**

Note: The following **optional** section is for use by districts that maintain grades 10-12. Education Code 51241 authorizes, but does not require, the district to grant a two-year exemption from physical education to eligible students in grades 10-12.

Pursuant to Education Code 51241, in order to be eligible for the two-year exemption, students are required to "satisfactorily" meet at least five of the six standards of the state's physical fitness test in grade 9. Students are considered to have satisfactorily met a standard on the FITNESSGRAM if they score in the "healthy fitness zone" on that standard. The six fitness areas measured by FITNESSGRAM are aerobic capacity, body composition, abdominal strength and endurance, trunk extensor strength and flexibility, upper body strength and endurance, and flexibility.

With the student's consent, the Superintendent or designee may exempt a student from physical education courses for any two years during grades 10-12 provided that the student has satisfactorily met at least five of the six standards of the state's physical fitness test in grade 9. (Education Code 51241)

Note: In addition to administering the physical fitness test to students in grade 9, Education Code 51241 authorizes districts to administer the test to students in grades 10-12 so that such students may qualify for the two-year exemption. The following paragraph is **optional**.

Upon request by students and/or their parents/guardians, the Superintendent or designee may administer the physical fitness test to students in grades 10-12 who need to pass the test in order to qualify for a two-year exemption from physical education courses.

Permanent Exemptions

Note: The following section is **optional**. Education Code 51241 authorizes, but does not require, the district to grant permanent exemptions from physical education to an individual student under the conditions described in items #1-3 below.

The Board should delete any categories of exemptions that it does not wish to allow.

The Superintendent or designee may grant a permanent exemption from physical education to an individual student under any of the following conditions: (Education Code 51241)

1. The student is age 16 years or older and has been enrolled in grade 10 for one or more academic years.
2. The student is enrolled as a postgraduate student.
3. The student is enrolled in a juvenile home, ranch, camp, or forestry camp school with scheduled recreation and exercise.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY (continued)

Other Exemptions

Note: The following **optional** section is for use by districts that maintain high schools. Education Code 51222, 51242, and 52316 authorize, but do not require, the following exemptions from physical education courses. **The Board should select the items that reflect the types of exemptions that it wishes to allow.**

The Superintendent or designee may grant an exemption from physical education under the following special circumstances:

1. The student in grades 10-12 is excused for up to 24 clock hours in order to participate in automobile driver training. (Education Code 51222)
2. The student in grades 10-12 attends a regional occupational center or program and attendance in physical education courses results in hardship because of the travel time involved. (Education Code 52316)
3. The student is in high school and is engaged in a regular school-sponsored interscholastic athletic program carried on wholly or partially after regular school hours. (Education Code 51242)

(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

Additional Opportunities for Physical Activity

Note: The following section is **optional**. See the accompanying administrative regulation for sample strategies for physical activity opportunities outside the physical education program. Also see CSBA's Fact Sheet on Maximizing Opportunities for Physical Activity During the School Day.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies to supplement physical education instruction with additional opportunities for students to be physically active before, during, and after the school day.

(cf. 1330.1 - Joint Use Agreements)
(cf. 5142.2 - Safe Routes to School Program)
(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development Program)
(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Program)
(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)
(cf. 6145.5 - Student Organizations and Equal Access)

Program Evaluation

Note: The following **optional** section should be revised to reflect district practice. Districts that do not maintain high schools or do not offer any of the exemptions described in the sections above on "Two-Year Exemptions" or "Permanent Exemptions" should modify the following paragraph to delete reports of two-year and permanent exemptions.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY (continued)

The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to the Board the results of the state physical fitness testing for each school and applicable grade level. He/she shall also report to the Board regarding the number of instructional minutes offered in physical education for each grade level, the number of two-year and permanent exemptions granted pursuant to Education Code 51241, and any other data agreed upon by the Board and the Superintendent or designee to evaluate program quality and the effectiveness of the district's program in meeting goals for physical activity.

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)

(cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33126 School accountability report card

33350-33354 CDE responsibilities re: physical education

35256 School accountability report card

49066 Grades; physical education class

51210 Course of study, grades 1-6

51220 Course of study, grades 7-12

51222 Physical education

51223 Physical education, elementary schools

51241 Temporary, two-year or permanent exemption from physical education

51242 Exemption from physical education for athletic program participants

52316 Excuse from attending physical education classes

60800 Physical performance test

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

1040-1048 Physical performance test

3051.5 Adapted physical education for individuals with exceptional needs

10060 Criteria for high school physical education programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1751 Note Local wellness policy

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

53 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 230 (1970)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Active Bodies, Active Minds: Physical Activity and Academic Achievement, Fact Sheet, February 2010

Maximizing Opportunities for Physical Activity Through Joint Use of Facilities, Policy Brief, rev.

February 2010

Maximizing Opportunities for Physical Activity During the School Day, Fact Sheet, November 2009

Moderate to Vigorous Physical Activity in Physical Education to Improve Health and Academic Outcomes, Fact Sheet, November 2009

Management Resources continued: (see next page)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY (continued)

Management Resources: (continued)

CSBA PUBLICATIONS (continued)

Building Healthy Communities: A School Leader's Guide to Collaboration and Community Engagement, 2009

Physical Education and California Schools, Policy Brief, rev. October 2007

Monitoring for Success: Student Wellness Policy Implementation Monitoring Report and Guide, 2007

Student Wellness: A Healthy Food and Physical Activity Policy Resource Guide, rev. April 2006

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Physical Education Framework for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade 12, 2009

Physical Education Model Content Standards for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade 12, January 2005

Adapted Physical Education Guidelines for California Schools, 2003

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION PUBLICATIONS

School Health Index for Physical Activity and Healthy Eating: A Self-Assessment and Planning Guide for Elementary and Middle/High Schools, 2000

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES PUBLICATIONS

2008 Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans, October 2008

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, Physical Fitness Testing: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/pf>

California Healthy Kids Resource Center: <http://www.californiahealthykids.org>

California Project LEAN (Leaders Encouraging Activity and Nutrition):
<http://www.californiaprojectlean.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>

Educational Data System, California physical fitness: <http://www.eddata.com/projects/current/cpf>

Healthy People 2010: <http://www.healthypeople.gov>

National Association for Sport and Physical Education: <http://www.aahperd.org/naspe>

President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports: <http://www.fitness.gov>

The California Endowment: <http://www.calendow.org>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: <http://www.health.gov>

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CSBA Sample Administrative Regulation

Instruction

AR 6142.7(a)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY

Definitions

Note: The following **optional** section reflects definitions provided in the California Department of Education's (CDE) 2009 Physical Education Framework for California Public Schools.

Physical education is a sequential educational program that teaches students to understand and participate in regular physical activity for developing and maintaining physical fitness throughout their lifetimes, understand and improve their motor skills, enjoy using their skills and knowledge to establish a healthy lifestyle, and understand how their bodies work.

Physical activity is bodily movement that is produced by the contraction of skeletal muscle and that substantially increases energy expenditure, including exercise, sport, dance, and other movement forms.

Moderate physical activity is any activity which generally requires sustained, rhythmic movements and refers to a level of effort a healthy individual might expend while, for example, walking briskly, dancing, swimming, or bicycling on level terrain. A person should feel some exertion but should be able to carry on a conversation comfortably during the activity.

Vigorous physical activity is any activity which generally requires sustained, rhythmic movements and refers to a level of effort a healthy individual might expend while, for example, jogging, participating in high-impact aerobic dancing, swimming continuous laps, or bicycling uphill. Vigorous physical activity may be intense enough to result in a significant increase in heart and respiration rate.

Instructional Time

Note: Education Code 51210 requires the adopted course of study for grades 1-6 to include instruction in physical education for at least 200 minutes each 10 school days, exclusive of recesses and the lunch period. For grades 7-12, Education Code 51222 requires that all students, except students excused or exempted pursuant to Education Code 51241, attend courses of physical education for at least 400 minutes each 10 school days. However, pursuant to Education Code 51223, elementary school districts maintaining grades 1-8 must provide instruction in physical education for students in grades 7-8 that matches the requirement for grades 1-6 of not less than 200 minutes each 10 school days, exclusive of recesses and the lunch period. The CDE's Categorical Program Monitoring process reviews district compliance with these instructional time requirements. The district should select the option below that reflects the grade levels offered by the district.

When determining the number of instructional minutes, it is recommended that districts exclude time spent walking to and from class or engaging in other physical activity conducted outside the physical education instructional program, such as in regular classroom activities or before/after school programs.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY (continued)

OPTION 1: (Elementary Districts with any of Grades 1-8)

Instruction in physical education shall be provided for a total period of time of not less than 200 minutes each 10 school days. (Education Code 51210, 51223)

OPTION 2: (High School Districts)

Instruction in physical education shall be provided for a total period of time of not less than 400 minutes each 10 school days. (Education Code 51222)

OPTION 3: (Unified School Districts)

Instruction in physical education shall be provided for a total period of time of not less than 200 minutes each 10 school days for students in grades 1-6 and not less than 400 minutes each 10 school days for students in grades 7-12. (Education Code 51210, 51222)

Note: The remainder of this section is for use by districts that maintain high schools. See the accompanying Board policy for information about the exemptions described in the following paragraphs.

Students in grades 10-12 who have been granted a two-year exemption pursuant to Education Code 51241(b) shall be offered a variety of elective physical education courses of not less than 400 minutes each 10 school days. (Education Code 51222)

Students in grades 10-12 who have been granted a two-year or permanent exemption from physical education pursuant to Education Code 51241(b)(1) or (c) shall not be permitted to attend fewer total hours of courses and classes than they would have attended if enrolled in a physical education course. (Education Code 51241)

Students in a regional occupational program or center who are exempted from physical education pursuant to Education Code 52316 shall have a minimum school day of 180 minutes. (Education Code 52316)

(cf. 6178.2 - Regional Occupational Center/Program)

Monitoring Moderate to Vigorous Physical Activity

Note: The following **optional** section may be revised to reflect district practice. See the accompanying Board policy for language establishing an expectation for students to be engaged in moderate to vigorous physical activity for 50 percent of physical education class/session time.

To monitor whether students are engaged in moderate to vigorous physical activity for at least 50 percent of physical education class or session time, the Superintendent or designee may:

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY (continued)

1. Develop methods to estimate the amount of time students spend in moderate to vigorous physical activity or the number of students who are inactive during physical education classes
2. Provide physical education teachers with staff development, self-monitoring tools, stopwatches, and/or heart rate monitors to assist them in planning and assessing the level of activity in their classes

(cf. 4115 - Evaluation/Supervision)

Physical Fitness Testing

Note: Education Code 60800 requires districts to administer a physical fitness test to students in grades 5, 7, and 9. The State Board of Education has designated FITNESSGRAM as the required physical fitness test. Pursuant to 5 CCR 1041, this requirement also applies to students who attend schools that are on a block schedule and students who may not be enrolled in physical education classes during the annual assessment window.

The following paragraph should be modified to reflect grade levels offered by the district. In addition, if the district has chosen to administer the test in any of grades 10-12 (see accompanying Board policy), the following paragraph should be modified accordingly.

During the annual assessment window between the months of February through May, students in grades 5, 7, and 9 shall be administered the physical fitness test designated by the State Board of Education. (Education Code 60800; 5 CCR 1041)

(cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)

The Superintendent or designee may provide a make-up date for students who are unable to take the test based on absence or temporary physical restriction or limitations, such as students recovering from illness or injury. (5 CCR 1043)

Note: The following paragraph is **optional**. 5 CCR 1043.4 authorizes, but does not require, the district to designate a physical fitness test coordinator. If the district chooses to designate a test coordinator, his/her duties must include those described in 5 CCR 1043.4.

On or before November 1 of each school year, the Superintendent may designate an employee to serve as the district's physical fitness test coordinator and so notify the test contractor. The test coordinator shall serve as the liaison between the district and California Department of Education for all matters related to the physical fitness test. His/her duties shall be those specified in 5 CCR 1043.4, including, but not limited to, overseeing the administration of the test and the collection and return of all test data to the test contractor. (5 CCR 1043.4)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY (continued)

Students shall be provided with their individual results after completing the physical performance testing. The test results may be provided in writing or orally as the student completes the testing and shall be included in his/her cumulative record. (Education Code 60800; 5 CCR 1043.10, 1044)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

Note: The following paragraph is optional .
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Each student's test results shall also be provided to his/her parents/guardians.

The Superintendent or designee shall report the aggregate results of the physical fitness testing in the annual school accountability report card required by Education Code 33126 and 35256. (Education Code 60800)

(cf. 0510 - School Accountability Report Card)

Testing Variations

All students may be administered the state's physical fitness test with the following test variations: (5 CCR 1047)

1. Extra time within a testing day
2. Test directions that are simplified or clarified

All students may have the following test variations if they are regularly used in the classroom: (5 CCR 1047)

1. Audio amplification equipment
2. Separate testing for individual students provided that they are directly supervised by the test examiner
3. Manually Coded English or American Sign Language to present directions for test administration

Students with a physical disability and students who are physically unable to take all of the test shall undergo as much of the test as their physical condition will permit. (Education Code 60800; 5 CCR 1047)

Students with disabilities may be provided the following accommodations if specified in their individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 plan: (5 CCR 1047)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY (continued)

1. Administration of the test at the most beneficial time of day to the student after consultation with the test contractor
2. Administration of the test by a test examiner to the student at home or in the hospital
3. Any other accommodation specified in the student's IEP or Section 504 plan for the physical fitness test

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

Identified English learners may be allowed the following additional test variations if regularly used in the classroom: (5 CCR 1048)

1. Separate testing with other English learners, provided that they are directly supervised by the test examiner
2. Test directions translated into their primary language, and the opportunity to ask clarifying questions about the test directions in their primary language

Additional Opportunities for Physical Activity

Note: The following optional section may be revised to reflect district practice. Item #1 below should be modified or deleted by districts that do not maintain elementary schools.
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The Superintendent or designee shall implement strategies for increasing opportunities for physical activity outside the physical education program, which may include, but not be limited to:

1. Training recess and lunch supervisors on methods to engage students in moderate to vigorous physical activity

(cf. 1240 - Volunteer Assistance)

(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)

2. Encouraging teachers to incorporate physical activity into the classroom
3. Establishing extracurricular activities that promote physical activity, such as school clubs, intramural athletic programs, dance performances, special events, and competitions

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

(cf. 6145.5 - Student Organizations and Equal Access)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ACTIVITY (continued)

4. Incorporating opportunities for physical activity into before- or after-school programs and/or child care and development programs

(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development Program)

(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Program)

5. Exploring opportunities for joint use of facilities or grounds in order to provide adequate space for students and community members to engage in recreational activities

(cf. 1330.1 - Joint Use Agreements)

6. Developing business partnerships to maximize resources for physical activity equipment and programs

(cf. 1700 - Relations Between Private Industry and the Schools)

7. Developing programs to encourage and facilitate walking, bicycling, or other active transport to and from school

(cf. 5142.2 - Safe Routes to School Program)