
Physical Education Standards

The Background:

T.C.A. § 49-1-302(a)(8) authorizes the State Board of Education to “set policies governing all academic standards and courses of study in the public schools.” Additionally, State Board Rule 0520-01-03-.03(1) calls for the State Board to adopt standards for each subject area, grades K-12. The approved standards are to be the basis for planning instructional programs in each local school system.

State Board Standards Review Policy 3.209 requires that the Board review all sets of academic standards at a minimum of every six years. The Tennessee Department of Education conducted stakeholder outreach during the 2022-23 school year to identify revisions to the Physical Education standards including but not limited to the following opportunities: the Tennessee Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (TAHPERD) Annual Convention October 23-25, 2022, via email with a statewide physical educator listserv January 2023, and various efforts through school health coordinators throughout the 2022-23 school year. These stakeholders included Tennessee physical education teachers, curriculum leaders and higher education faculty from across the state. This item includes new and revised standards for each of the following grade bands: grades K-5, grades 6-8, and grades 9-12.

Standards revisions in grades K-5 prioritized optimizing clarity for teachers to observe and assess students and expands some lesson focuses to include multiple domains. Standards revisions in grades 6-8 better support the transition from foundational skills to skill application and transferability, restructured standards to pair outcomes in both the psychomotor/skill domain and the cognitive domain, adjusting sequencing to suggest ease of facilitation for skill acquisition, and combining grades 7 and 8 as a singular benchmark. Standards revisions in grades 9-12 include appropriate language updates to better align with changes made in the grades 6-8 standards, an elevate verbs in the cognitive domain.

The Fiscal Analysis Impact:

T.C.A. § 49-1-212 requires that the Department prepare a fiscal analysis of any policy, rule, or regulation proposed to the State Board of Education. This item has no financial impact on an LEA.

Connection to the [Master Plan](#):

This item supports the State Board’s strategic focus on Engagement and Accountability outlined in the Master Plan by ensuring high quality standards that provide opportunity to improve outcomes and ensuring transparency through public feedback.

The Recommendation:

The Department of Education recommends acceptance of this item on first reading. The State Board staff concurs with this recommendation.