
Physical Education and Physical Activity Policy 4.206

The Background:

This item updates language within the Physical Education and Physical Activity Policy to align with state law and other policy. Chapter 306 of the Public Acts of 2025 increases, from 130 minutes per full school week to 40 minutes per school day, the minimum amount of physical activity required for elementary school students. The legislation also establishes additional requirements for the minimum amount of physical activity required for elementary school students. Because state law outlines minimum amounts and requirements of physical activity for elementary school students, the Department recommends removing redundant language from policy and prioritizing detailed guidelines necessary to interpret state law.

Further revisions were made to remove the sections of the policy related to the School Health Advisory Council and Implementation of School Health Index (SHI) from the Physical Education and Physical Activity Policy. The requirements for the Council and SHI are contained in the Coordinated School Health Program Policy 4.204, and the sections are being removed from the Physical Education and Physical Activity Policy to avoid duplication across State Board policies.

Additionally, the item provides clarity on required school and district practices related to student physical activity and physical education by streamlining language used throughout the policy.

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.

Policy Justification:

T.C.A. § 4-5-230 requires that justification for adopting an item as a policy instead of a rule be submitted to the chair of the Government Operations Committee. This item is proposed to be adopted as a policy because it defines or explains the meaning of a statute or rule and/or concerns only the internal management of state government that does not affect private rights or privileges.

Connection to the [Master Plan](#):

This item supports the State Board's strategic focus on Engagement and Accountability, outlined in the Master Plan, by updating its rules and policies to align with state law and policy.

The Recommendation:

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