## California Physical Education Program Self-Assessment Checklist

This checklist is a compilation of California codes and regulations, national best practices, and local recommendations pertaining to physical education. Designed for school district staff to conduct a comprehensive self-assessment of the district's physical education programs, this tool can help schools establish a baseline and serve as a basis for the development of an action plan to address gaps while highlighting strengths.

## Introduction

This self-assessment tool for California school districts compiles codes and regulations that pertain to physical education from across California's Education Code (EC), California Code of Regulations (CCR), and national best practice recommendations from leading physical education and health agencies (i.e. Society of Health and Physical Educators [SHAPE America], 2009 Commission on Teacher Credentialing [CTC], Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC]), and other resources into a single, checklist document. Most checklist entries are paraphrased from their source documents for the sake of brevity and space in this checklist. However all items are referenced to guide users to the entry's full text.

This checklist is designed for teachers and administrators to easily conduct a comprehensive internal assessment of their physical education policies and programs. Completion of this checklist can provide districts with insight into their physical education program's current level of compliance with items mandated by law and recommended best practices. This information can help districts identify internal strengths and weaknesses/gaps, and clarify opportunities for improvement.

While completion of this checklist can serve as a stand-alone assessment providing valuable information to districts regarding their physical education programs, it can also be the first of a three-step process designed to institutionalize the district's efforts to achieve compliance with California physical education codes and regulations, as well as recommended practices the district chooses to adopt. Step [1] is completion of the self-assessment checklist. Step [2] is development of a districtwide Action Plan. Step [3] is adoption of a School Board Policy and Step [4] is the adoption of a Board Resolution. Districts that complete the four-step process may contribute to reducing disparities among physical education programs throughout the state.

In brief, Districts can achieve compliance with legally required (mandatory) checklist items by, at a minimum, ensuring that all teachers who provide instruction in physical education are appropriately credentialed and provide 200-400 minutes of physical education each 10 school days, scheduling class sizes that are consistent with good instruction and safety, and maintaining safe and adequate teaching stations and equipment for physical education instruction.

## Physical Education Disparities and Compliance

A 2012 peer-reviewed study documents that students of color and low income students are disproportionately denied physical education in California public schools. ${ }^{1}$ Additionally, the 2003 California Health Interview Survey ${ }^{2}$ and the 2010 Shape of the Nation Report-Status of Physical Education in the United States ${ }^{3}$ indicate that physical education quantity and quality are particularly deficient for less affluent students and those in racial and ethnic groups who are at high risk for being overweight and/or obese. Fully $50 \%$ of California public school students in grade 5 and over $43 \%$ and $38 \%$ of public school students in grades 7 and 9 , respectively, do not meet 5 of 6 standards on the state-required physical performance fitness test (FITNESSGRAM®), and there are large disparities by race
and ethnicity. 4 Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and California Government Code Section 11135 and their regulations prohibit intentional discrimination based on race, color or national origin and prohibit unjustified discriminatory impacts, even if unintentional, on minority students that attend schools that receive federal or state financial assistance. Students can be "unintentionally" discriminated against if they do not receive physical education instruction. See the decision by the federal court of appeals for the Ninth Circuit in Larry P. v. Riles (9th Cir. 1984), 793 F.2d 969 (intentional discrimination, and unjustified discriminatory impacts regardless of intent, are prohibited in public education under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and its regulations).

The California Court of Appeal has held that physical education minutes are mandatory requirements that must be complied with under the state law that enacts them. In Doe v. Albany Unified School District, 190 Cal.App.4th 668 (2010), the Court ruled that (1) state law, Education Code section 51210, imposes a mandatory duty on school districts to provide a minimum of 200 physical education minutes every 10 days in elementary schools, excluding lunch or recess; and (2) that parents could seek enforcement of the statute. Based on similar statutory language and the reasoning of the Court, minutes requirements in middle and high school, credentialing requirements, and training requirements are also mandatory.

## How to Use this Document

To make the process of completing this checklist as smooth and seamless as possible:
(1) Familiarize yourself with the tool by reading the headers and background information below each header for all items;
(2) Determine what district policy documents (i.e. School Wellness Policy) you will need and locate them;
(3) Note the name/number of the district policy that supports/references each checklist item on the line provided in the last column, next to the row of check-boxes;
(4) Determine the district's policy implementation status (fully implemented, partially implemented, not implemented or not feasible at this time) for each checklist item by collecting information from district staff (i.e. elementary and secondary teachers of physical education, as appropriate);
(5) Indicate the district's policy implementation status by checking the appropriate box for each checklist item; and
(6) After completing the checklist, determine the district's areas of strength (fully implemented) and need (partially implemented, not implemented or not feasible), and use this information to develop an action plan that addresses gaps in compliance and recommended policy/practice.

## Disclaimers

California is a local control state that gives Local Education Agencies authority to make decisions when the code regulation is allowable.
California Codes of Regulation (CCR) and Education Code (EC) are not always provided in their entirety. Refer to the citation in brackets [] for the complete text.

| Checklist Item Number | Topic with Description | Mandatory (M) Allowed (A) or Recommended Policy/Practice (RP) | Fully Implemented | Partially Implemented | Not Implemented or Not Feasible at this Time | District Policy Name/Number Where this is Referenced |
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1
Physical Education Course Requirements:
The Legislature hereby finds and declares that the physical fitness and motor development of children in the public elementary schools is of equal importance to that of other elements of the curriculum. [EC \$51210.2 (a)] The State Department of Education shall..... encourage school districts...to provide quality physical education that develops the knowledge, attitudes, skills, behavior and motivation needed to be physically active and fit for life.... [EC \$33350] Most children lead inactive lives... It is, therefore, the intent of the Legislature that all children shall have access to a highquality, comprehensive, and developmentally appropriate physical education program on a regular basis. [EC \$51210.1 (a)(1)(E), and (a)(2)] Grades 1-12. Physical education course of study must include an emphasis upon those physical activities that may be conducive to health and vigor of mind and body. [EC \$51210 (g), EC \$51220 (d)]
a. Kindergarten shall have physical education. [CA Framework adopted by California State Board of Education - CSBE 2008 to address K standards]
b. Grades 1-9. Each student shall have physical education every year in grades 1-8. [EC \$51210, EC \$51220, EC \$51222, EC \$51223]
c. Grades 10-12. Each student shall be enrolled in courses of physical education in each of grades 9-12 unless exempted by an action of the governing board. [EC \$51222, EC \$51241]

Minute Time Requirements:
Physical Education, with emphasis upon the physical activities for the pupils that may be conducive to health and vigor of body and mind, for a total period of time of not less than 200 minutes each 10 school days, exclusive of recesses and the lunch period. [EC \$51210 (g)]
a. Kindergarten. All students receive the elementary requirement of a minimum of 200 minutes of physical education each 10 school days. (CA Framework adopted by CSBE 2008 to address K standards)

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| b. | Elementary. Students in grades $1-6$ shall have a minimum 200 minutes of physical education each 10 school days, exclusive of lunchtime and recess. [EC \$51210 (g)] | M |  |  |  |  |
| c. | K-8 Schools. Schools with each of grades 1 through 8 shall have a minimum of 200 minutes of physical education each 10 school days, exclusive of lunchtime and recess. [EC \$51223] | M |  |  |  |  |
| d. | Secondary. Students in grades 7-12 shall have a minimum of 400 minutes of physical education each 10 school days. [EC \$51222] | M |  |  |  |  |
| e. | If a middle school provides departmentalized instruction for 6th grade students, all students shall receive the secondary requirement of a minimum of 400 minutes of physical education each 10 school days. (Los Angeles Unified School District- LAUSD Bulletin 2528.1) | RP |  |  |  |  |


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f. When a middle or high school is on an alternate or term block schedule, a physical education waiver for the mandated instructional minutes must be obtained from the California State Board of Education (CSBE) by addressing the following six requirements. (CSBE 99-03) Term block schedules tend to deprive students of physical education for many weeks, typically a trimester or a semester. There is no evidence that term block scheduling is superior to alternate day block scheduling in relation to student achievement. Yet evidence does exist that inactivity for a term can be detrimental to the health of students. Middle/Junior High School Waiver Criteria (Block Schedule)

- The State Board of Education will consider waivers for those middle schools/junior high schools that share a campus and/or physical education facilities with a neighboring secondary school operating on a block schedule. Middle school/junior high schools must also meet the secondary school waiver criteria \#1-4 and \#6 listed below.

Secondary School Waiver Criteria (must meet all criteria)

1. Students are in physical education a minimum of 18 weeks in 70-90 minute daily periods during the regular school year.
2. The district describes a method by which it will monitor students' maintenance of a personal exercise program during the weeks the student is not participating in a physical education course.
3. The district provides evidence that alternate day scheduling for physical education rather than alternate term scheduling has been thoroughly investigated. Reasons why alternate day scheduling will not work are clearly explained.
4. The district provides information that shows the physical education program is aligned with the Physical Education Framework (provides a sequential, articulated, age-appropriate program).
5. The district provides information that shows the physical education program (in a senior or four-year high school) is in compliance with California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Article 3.1, Section 10060.
6. Students are prepared for and participate in the physical performance testing as specified in the Education Code.

Allowed (A)
Policy/Practice (RP)

Implemented
plemented or
at this Time

Name/Number Where this is Referenced

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#### Abstract

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| 3 | California Physical Education Model Content Standards: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | The Physical Education Model Content Standards for California Public Schools, Kindergarten through Grade 12, were adopted by the California State Board of Education in 2005 and are specified as being exemplary and not mandatory with the exception of references to statutes, regulations, and court decisions. [EC \$33308.5 (a)] These standards address the eight physical education content areas in a developmental sequence for grades K-12. [5 CCR \$10060] Compliance with Federal Program Monitoring (FPM) requires the evaluation of every high school student's individual progress and the measure of his or her attainment of the goals specified in each area of instruction as listed in subsection (a) of 5 CCR $\$ 10060$. (CDE Physical Education Federal Program Monitoring Instrument Item Report 2013-14) Nationally, fewer than 29\% of districts required or recommended one particular physical education curriculum at any school level. Districts could benefit from the use of the PECAT to analyze and revise curriculum or develop new curriculum. [CDC, Results from the School Health Policies and Practices Study 2012] |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. | The District shall adopt physical education curriculum (commercial or district written) that includes developmentally appropriate content, assessment, and instruction aligned with the Physical Education Model Content Standards for California Public Schools, K-12, and the Physical Education Framework for California Public Schools, K-12, 2008. | RP |  |  |  |  |
| 4 | Teacher Credentialing: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Physical education instruction shall be delivered by appropriately credentialed teachers. |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. | Elementary. To ensure that students have access to qualified teachers, teachers must hold a credential that authorizes the teaching of physical education (Single Subject Credential in Physical Education or a Multiple Subject Credential). [EC \$44256, EC \$44258.7] | M |  |  |  |  |
|  | California Standards for the Teaching Profession, CDE, 2009: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1. Engaging and supporting all students in learning | RP |  |  |  |  |


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|  |  | Creating and maintaining effective environments for student learning | RP |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Understanding and organizing subject matter for student learning | RP |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Planning instruction and designing learning experiences for all students | RP |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Assessing students for learning | RP |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Developing as a Professional Educator | RP |  |  |  |  |
| b. |  | tary. Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials may team teach ge students) with another teacher for the purposes of instruction period a day, unless meeting section c requirements below. [5 0003 (b), EC $\$ 44258.15$, LAUSD Bulletin 2528.1] A Multiple credential holder may teach physical education to students they instruction in other curricular areas. | A |  |  |  |  |
| c. |  | verning board of a school district by resolution may authorize der of a multiple subject teaching credential or a standard tary credential to teach any subject in departmentalized to a given class or group of students below grade g, provided teacher has completed at least 12 semester units, or six ivision or graduate units, of coursework at an accredited ion in each subject to be taught. The authorization shall be e teacher's consent. However, the commission, by regulation, vide that evidence of additional competence is necessary for tion in particular subjects, including, but not limited to,foreign ges. [EC $\$ 44256$ (b)] | A |  |  |  |  |
| d. |  | tary. Instructional aides, paraprofessionals, and volunteers may used to provide physical education instruction or decrease the /teacher ratio for physical education instruction. [EC \$45340EC \$45350-S45356, EC \$45360-\$45367] | M |  |  |  |  |


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| e. | Elementary. Each elementary school should provide a school wide physical education class schedule to the District that is approved by the principal and reported to the district. [EC \$45340-\$45349, EC \$45350$\$ 45356$, EC $\$ 45360$ - $\$ 45367$, LAUSD Bulletin 2581.1] | RP |  |  |  |  |
| f. | Secondary. Teachers who hold a single subject teaching credential or standard secondary credential in physical education are authorized to teach physical education subject matter courses in departmentalized (more than one class period) programs. [EC \$44256, EC \$44258.7] These teachers provide instruction, evaluate students, and assign grades in physical education courses and report student progress. [CTC Standards 5-5] | M |  |  |  |  |
| g. | Secondary. Instructional aides, paraprofessionals, volunteers, and walkon coaches may not be used to provide physical education instruction or decrease the student/teacher ratio in physical education. [EC \$45340\$45349, EC $\$ 45350-\$ 45356$ EC $\$ 45360-\$ 45367]$ | M |  |  |  |  |
| h. | Secondary. A student can receive physical education credit for participation in a school-sponsored competitive sport [EC $\$ 44258.7$ (b)] if the following criteria are met: <br> A person who holds a teaching credential in a subject or subjects other than physical education may be authorized by action of the local governing board to coach one period per day in a competitive sport for which students receive physical education credit, provided that he or she is a full-time employee of the school district and has completed a minimum of 20 hours of first aid instruction appropriate for the specific sport. | A |  |  |  |  |
| i. | Secondary. Students, participating in a competitive sport for which physical education credit is given, must receive instruction in the other mandated physical education content areas during off season from a teacher authorized to teach physical education. [EC $\$ 44258.7$ (b), 5CCR \$10060] | M |  |  |  |  |
| j. | Secondary. During the off season, the student receives instruction in the other content areas taught by an appropriately credentialed physical education teacher. The student may need to rotate into a general grade-level physical education program. [LAUSD Bulletin 2528.1] | RP |  |  |  |  |


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| k. | Teachers assigned to teach a subject outside of their area of preparation and authorization may be assigned by a committee. Committee on Assignment regulations must be followed and are found in the complete Advisory on Teacher Assignment Option Education Code EC $\$ 44258.3$ California Commission on Teacher Credentialing Ensuring Teacher Quality document. [EC \$44258.3] <br> A teacher employed on a full-time basis who teaches kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, and who has special skills and preparation outside of his or her credential authorization may, with his or her consent, be assigned to teach an elective course in the area of the special skills or preparation, provided that the assignment is first approved by a committee on assignments. For purposes of this subdivision an "elective course" is a course other than English, mathematics, science, or social studies. The membership of the committee on assignments shall include an equal number of teachers, selected by teachers, and school administrators, selected by school administrators. [EC \$44258.7 (c)] <br> Assignments approved by the committee on assignments shall be for a maximum of one school year, but may be extended by action of the committee upon application by the schoolsite administrator and the affected teacher. [EC $\$ 44258.7$ (d)] | M |  |  |  |  |
| 1. | The holder of a credential authorizing instruction in a self-contained classroom may teach in any of grades 5 to 8, inclusive, in a middle school, provided that he or she teaches two or more subjects for two or more periods per day to the same group of pupils, and, in addition, may teach any of the subjects he or she already is teaching to a separate group of pupils at the same grade level as those pupils he or she already is teaching for an additional period or periods, provided that the additional period or periods do not exceed one-half of the teacher's total assignment. [EC \$44258.1] | A |  |  |  |  |
| 5 | High School Physical Education Courses: |  |  |  |  |  |


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| The District shall develop a high school course of study for physical education courses that is aligned with Federal requirements, Education Code, State Regulations, and the Physical Education Model Content Standards for California Public Schools K-12. The course of study will ensure that all students have access to the eight required content areas for high school physical education. [EC \$33352, 5CCR \$10060] The District's course of study will include physical education courses for each of the following: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. Each | Each school district shall appraise the quality of the physical education program in each senior or four-year high school for the district by the following criteria [5 CCR \$10060]: |  |  |  |  |  |
| (a) The course of the study provides for instruction in a developmental sequence in each of the following areas: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. | Effects of physical activity upon dynamic health | M |  |  |  |  |
| 2. | Mechanics of body movement | M |  |  |  |  |
| 3. | Aquatics | M |  |  |  |  |
| 4. | Gymnastics and tumbling | M |  |  |  |  |
| 5. | Individual and dual sports | M |  |  |  |  |
| 6. | Rhythms and dance | M |  |  |  |  |
| 7. | Team sports | M |  |  |  |  |
| 8. | Combatives... | M |  |  |  |  |

\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|}
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\hline \multirow[t]{2}{*}{b.

c.} \& The governing board of each school district that maintains a high school and that elects to exempt pupils from required attendance in physical education courses pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) or both of subdivision (b) of Section 51241 shall offer those pupils so exempted a variety of elective physical education courses of not less than 400 minutes each 10 schooldays. [EC \$51222 (b)] CDE interprets a "variety of electives" to mean 3 or more courses for Federal Program Monitoring that meet the coeducational criteria. \& M \& \& \& \& <br>
\hline \& All physical education classes are conducted in the coeducational, inclusive manner prescribed by law. All students have equal access to all physical education courses and meet the legal minimum requirement of time spent in physical education. [Title IX, 34 CFR $\$ 106.33,34$ CFR \$106.34; 5 CCR \$4930, 5 CCR \$4931, 5 CCR \$4940, EC \$51210 (g), EC \$51222, EC \$51223] \& M \& \& \& \& <br>

\hline d. \& | Elective physical education courses shall provide content that continues the content sequence after Course I and Course II. |
| :--- |
| Note: High School Courses III and IV in the Physical Education Model Content Standards for California Public Schools K-12 provide a model for these courses. [Physical Education Framework for California Public Schools Kindergarten through Grade Twelve] | \& RP \& \& \& \& <br>

\hline \multirow[t]{4}{*}{e.} \& Other physical education courses for students in high school may be developed and delivered for physical education credit if each of the following is true: \& \& \& \& \& <br>
\hline \& i. A minimum of 400 minutes of physical education instruction is delivered each 10 school days. [EC \$51222] \& M \& \& \& \& <br>
\hline \& ii. Over the course of high school enrollment, each student receives instruction in each of the required eight content areas. [5 CCR \$10060] \& M \& \& \& \& <br>
\hline \& iii. Reporting of pupil achievement is based upon all of the following: Evaluation of the pupil's individual progress and measure of attainment of the goals specified in each of the eight content areas, assessment of skills and knowledge, and physical performance tests. [5 CCR \$10060] \& M \& \& \& \& <br>
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|  | iv. To ensure that students have access to qualified teachers, teachers must hold a credential that authorizes the teaching of physical education (i.e. Single Subject Credential in Physical Education or a Multiple Subject Credential). [EC \$44256, EC \$44258.7] | M |  |  |  |  |
|  | California Standards for the Teaching Profession, CDE 2009: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1. Engaging and supporting all students in learning | RP |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2. Creating and maintaining effective environments for student learning | RP |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3. Understanding and organizing subject matter for student learning | RP |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4. Planning instruction and designing learning experiences for all students | RP |  |  |  |  |
|  | 5. Assessing students for learning | RP |  |  |  |  |
|  | 6. Developing as a Professional Educator | RP |  |  |  |  |
| 6 | Moderate to Vigorous Physical Activity: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | The District's physical education program shall provide high quality instruction that includes: |  |  |  |  |  |


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| a. | Each course includes activities of a vigorous nature adapted to individual capacities, and designed to permit maximum development of each individual pupil. [5CCR \$10060 (d)] Moderate physical activity refers to activities equivalent in intensity to brisk walking or bicycling. Vigorous physical activity produces large increases in breathing or heart rate, such as jogging, aerobic dance or bicycling uphill. [California School Boards Association, Physical Education Model Content Standards for California Public Schools, K-12, Standard 3 for grades K-8/Standard 2 for grades 9-12] | M |  |  |  |  |
| b. | The District shall seek to engage students in moderate to vigorous physical activity (MVPA) for at least $50 \%$ of class or session time. [Physical Education Model Content Standards for California Public Schools K-12 Standard 3, Institute of Medicine (IOM), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Society of Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE America), Appropriate Instructional Practice Guidelines for Elementary/Middle/High School Physical Education 2.5.1] | RP |  |  |  |  |
| c. | The District shall develop strategies to monitor student learning in physical education as well as the amount of moderate to vigorous physical activity that takes place in the physical education instructional program. [Physical Education Model Content Standards for California Public Schools K-12 Standard 3, Institute of Medicine [IOM], Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)] | RP |  |  |  |  |
| 7 | Professional Development: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | The District shall provide physical education teachers with continuing professional development that is relevant to improving instruction in physical education. Professional development should include each of the following: course content, assessment of student learning in physical education, classroom management, instructional strategies, and additional pertinent topics related to enhancing the quality of physical education learning experience for students. [Physical Education Framework for California Public Schools Kindergarten through Grade Twelve] | RP |  |  | $\downarrow$ |  |
| 8 | Funding: |  |  |  |  |  |


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|  | The District shall provide sufficient funds for the physical education program including each of the following: |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. | Supplies and equipment of sufficient quantity and quality are provided to allow active participation of each pupil throughout the class period. [5CCR $\$ 10060$ (i)], EC \$51054] | M |  |  |  |  |
| b. | Standards-based Physical Education Curriculum as developed or adopted by the District.[Physical Education Model Content Standards for California Public Schools, K-12 and Physical Education Framework for California Public Schools, K-12, 20081 | RP |  |  |  |  |
| c. | Any funds received by the district and designated for physical education, shall be used only for their intended purpose - physical education. <br> (Williams Act) | RP |  |  |  |  |
| 9 | Equal Protection (Race, Color, National Origin): |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. | Districts that receive federal or state financial assistance shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national origin and must avoid unjustified discriminatory impacts. (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and California Government Code Section 11135 and their regulations) | M |  |  |  |  |
| b. | The District will avoid "unintentional" discrimination by monitoring that students of all race, color, and national origins receive quality physical education instruction. (SHAPE America: Appropriate Instructional Practice Guidelines for Elementary/Middle/High School Physical Education 1.4.1) | RP |  |  |  |  |
| 10 | Gender Equity: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Title IX (20 U.S.C. $\$ \$_{1681-1688)}$ of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex-based discrimination in education programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance, stating that: no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. |  |  |  |  |  |


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| a. | All physical education classes must be co-educational. [34 CFR \$106.34 (a)] | M |  |  |  |  |
| b. | Participation in a particular physical education activity or sport, if required of students of one sex, shall be available to students of each sex. The curriculum for the activity or sport must be the same; it must be voluntary and there must be a co-educational class offered. [34 CFR $\$ 106.34$ (B)(ii)(iii)(iv)(2)] | M |  |  |  |  |
| c. | Instruction and testing in all physical education classes are to be coeducational. [EC \$221.5-\$231.5] | M |  |  |  |  |
| d. | Student grouping by ability is allowed. However, any grouping of students during physical education activities should be on-going, flexible, and modified per unit or activity and may not have a discriminatory impact. [34 CFR §106.34(a)(2)] | M |  |  |  |  |
| e. | Students are to be assessed by objective standards of individual performance without regard to sex. [34 CFR \$106.36 (b)] | M |  |  |  |  |
| f. | Transgender law: Self-identified transgender students have the right to use facilities for their named gender. [5CCR 4910 (k), Civil Code 51, and Assembly Bill 1266] | M |  |  |  |  |
| 11 | Physical Fitness Testing: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | The FITNESSGRAM ${ }^{\circledR}$ developed by The Cooper Institute has been designated by the California State Board of Education as the California physical fitness test. |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. | During the months of February, March, April, or May, the District shall administer to each pupil in grades 5,7 , and 9 the physical performance test designated by the State Board of Education. [EC \$60800 (a)] | M |  |  |  |  |
| b. | The Superintendent or designee may provide a make-up date within the State mandated testing window 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 (b)] | A |  |  |  |  |


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| c. | Provide a list/schedule of make-up dates for students to participate in the Physical Fitness Testing. [LAUSD Bulletin 3970.0] | RP |  |  |  |  |
| d. | Each school district shall submit to the California State Department of Education (CDE) the results of its physical performance testing as directed by CDE. [EC \$60800 (b)(c)] | M |  |  |  |  |
| e. | Physically disabled pupils and each student who is physically unable to take the entire physical performance test shall be given as much of the test as his or her condition will permit. [EC \$60800 (a)] | M |  |  |  |  |
| f. | School Accountability Report Cards - The District shall report the aggregate results of its physical performance testing administered pursuant to California Education Code EC \$60800 in their annual school accountability report card required by EC \$33126 and EC \$35256. | M |  |  |  |  |
| g. | Physical performance testing may be mailed home to the pupil and parent, and provided to the pupil orally as the pupil completes individual test items. [EC \$60800 (d)] | A |  |  |  |  |
| h. | A copy of the student's test results shall be placed into the student's cumulative record. [LAUSD Bulletin 2528.1] | RP |  |  |  |  |
| 12 | Class Size: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | To provide a high quality instructional program, maximize student safety, and account for factors such as the nature of activities, availability and adequacy of facilities, and individual student differences, District schools should limit physical education class size. |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. | Class size is consistent with the requirements of good instruction and safety. [5 CCR \$10060 (f), SHAPE America: Appropriate Instructional Practice Guidelines for High School Physical Education] | M |  |  |  |  |
| b. | Physical education class size should be consistent with those of other subject areas. [SHAPE America:Teaching Large Class Sizes in Physical Education Guidelines and Strategies] | RP |  |  |  |  |



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| a. | Physical education is included in the District's regular schedule for instructional program evaluation. | RP |  |  |  |  |
| b. | Physical education is on the District's regular schedule for adopting instructional materials. | RP |  |  |  |  |
| c. | The quality of the High School program should be evaluated on the following criteria. [5 CCR \$10060]: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | i. Course of study and required eight content areas | M |  |  |  |  |
|  | ii. Assignment of pupils to physical education courses is made on the basis of individual needs including such factors as health status, skill development, and/or grade level. [5 CCR $\$ 10060$ (b)] | M |  |  |  |  |
|  | iii. Instruction is provided for pupils with physical limitations including those with inadequate skill development and the physically underdeveloped. Physical performance tests as required by Section 1041 are used to identify physically underdeveloped pupils and to appraise the motor aspects of physical fitness.[5 CCR \$10060 (c)] | M |  |  |  |  |
|  | iv. Each class period includes the teaching of the fundamentals and techniques of each instructional area conducted during that period.[5 CCR \$10060 (e)] | M |  |  |  |  |
|  | v. Class size is consistent with the requirements of good instruction and safety.[5CCR \$10060 (f)] | M |  |  |  |  |
|  | Each course includes activities of a vigorous nature adapted <br> vi. to individual capacities, and designed to permit maximum development of each individual pupil.[5 CCR \$10060 (d)] | M |  |  |  |  |
|  | vii. Reporting of pupil achievement is based upon all of the following [5 CCR $\$ 10060(\mathrm{~g})]$ : $^{10}$ |  |  |  |  |  |


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|  | (1) | Evaluation of the pupil's individual progress and the measure of his attainment of the goals specified in each area of instruction listed in subsection (a) of this section. | M |  |  |  |  |
|  | (2) | Tests designed to determine skill and knowledge. | M |  |  |  |  |
|  | (3) | Physical performance tests. | M |  |  |  |  |
|  | (4) | Any other evaluation procedures required by local governing board regulations. | M |  |  |  |  |
|  | viii. | Teaching stations are of sufficient number and suitability to provide instruction in activities conducted under subsection (a) of this section. [5 CCR \$10060 (h)] | M |  |  |  |  |
|  | ix. | Supplies and equipment of sufficient quantity and quality are provided to allow active participation of each pupil throughout the class period. [5 CCR \$10060 (i), EC \$51054] | M |  |  |  |  |
| 15 | Exemptions from High School Physical Education Courses: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | All exemptions are optional; if the local governing board chooses to utilize the exemptions, the criteria must be met. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. | The governing board of a school district may exempt any four-year or senior high school pupil from attending courses of physical education, if the pupil is engaged in a regular school-sponsored interscholastic athletic program (in the competitive season) carried on wholly or partially after regular school hours. [EC \$51242] |  | A |  |  |  |  |
| 16 | Tempora | Exemptions: |  |  |  |  |  |


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|  | All exemptions are optional; if the local governing board chooses to utilize the exemptions the criteria must be met. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | The governing board may grant an individual student a temporary exemption from participating in a physical education course [EC \$51241 (a)(1)] if either: |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. | The student is ill or injured, and a modified program to meet the needs of the student cannot be provided. [EC \$51241 (a)(1)] Placement of an injured or ill student in modified physical education, specially designed physical education, or adapted physical education shall be considered before an exemption is granted. | A |  |  |  |  |
| b. | The student is enrolled half-time or less (half-time is defined as three classes). [EC $\$ 51241$ (a)(2)] | A |  |  |  |  |
| $17 \begin{array}{ll}17 & \\ & \\ & \text { a. }\end{array}$ | Two-Year Exemptions: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | All exemptions are optional; if the local governing board chooses to utilize the exemptions the criteria must be met. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | With the student's consent, the governing board may grant an individual student an exemption for one or two years any time during grades 10 to 12, inclusive, provided that the student has: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | i. Satisfactorily met (i.e., is in the "healthy fitness zone" for) at least five of the six standards on the state's physical fitness test in grade 9. [EC $\$ 51241$ (b)(1); FITNESSGRAM © $\left.{ }^{\text {© }}\right]$ (To use the two-year exemption, the student must have met at least five of the six standards) | A |  |  |  |  |
|  | ii. <br> The District may administer the physical fitness test to students anytime in grades 10-12 in order to determine student qualification for a two-year exemption from physical education courses. [California Department of Education's (CDE) Physical Education Frequently Asked Questions] | A |  |  |  |  |
| b. | Students who are granted a one or two year exemption from physical education courses must be offered physical education elective courses. [EC ${ }_{51222(b)]}$ | A |  |  |  |  |


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| c. | Exemptions may be granted to each individual student but not an entire class or grade level. [California Department of Education's (CDE) Physical Education Frequently Asked Questions] | RP |  |  |  |  |
|  | Permanent Exemptions: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | All exemptions are optional; if the local governing board chooses to utilize the exemptions the criteria must be met. [EC \$51241(c)] |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | The governing board may grant individual students permanent exemptions from participation in a physical education course if the pupil complies with one of the following : |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. | Is 16 years of age or older and has been enrolled in the 1oth grade for one academic year or longer. [EC \$51241 (c)(1)] | A |  |  |  |  |
| b. | Exemption 18a (above) is to be used on a pupil-by-pupil basis only for students who come from an out-of-state or a private school that does not have a physical education requirement equivalent to California and cannot complete the two-year physical education requirement before graduating. [LAUSD Bulletin 2528.1] | RP |  |  |  |  |
| c. | Is enrolled as a postgraduate pupil. [EC \$51241 (c)(2)] | A |  |  |  |  |
| d. | Is enrolled in a juvenile home, ranch, camp, or forestry camp school where pupils are scheduled for recreation and exercise. This pertains to the time the student is enrolled in these programs. [EC \$51241 (c)(3)] | A |  |  |  |  |
| 19 | Other Exemptions: |  |  |  |  |  |

Other Exemptions:
All exemptions are optional; if the local governing board chooses to utilize the exemptions the criteria must be met.

The District may grant an exemption from physical education under the following special circumstances:

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| a. | Driver Training. A student in grades 10-12 may be excused for up to 24 clock hours in order to participate in automobile driver training. Such pupil who is excused from physical education classes to enroll in driver training shall attend upon a minimum of 7,000 minutes of physical education instruction during such school year. [EC \$51222 (a)] | A |  |  |  |  |
| b. | Occupational Center Travel Hardship. A student in grades 10-12 who attends a regional occupational center or program where attendance in physical education courses results in a hardship due to the travel time may be excused. If a pupil is excused from physical education classes pursuant to this section, the minimum schoolday for him in his regular high school is 180 minutes. [EC \$52316] | A |  |  |  |  |
| 20 | Independent Study: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Physical education is required for all students except those provided with temporary or permanent exemptions as identified above. [EC $\$ 51210$, EC \$51220, EC \$51222] However, on occasion, a secondary school will have a student whose educational needs in physical education extend far beyond that of his or her peers. The talent or ability is being extended or perfected in an off-campus, non-school related environment under supervision of a professional competent to assist the student towards maximum achievement. Independent study may not be used as a replacement curriculum. |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | A pupil shall complete the following while in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, in order to receive a diploma of graduation from high school: [EC \$51225.3 <br> (a)] |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | i. Two courses in physical education, unless the pupil has been exempted pursuant to the provisions of this code. [EC $\$ 51225.3(\mathrm{a})(\mathrm{F})]$ | M |  |  |  |  |
| b. | The governing board, with the active involvement of parents, administrators, teachers, and pupils, shall adopt alternative means for pupils to complete the prescribed course of study that may include...independent study... [EC $\$ 51225.3$ (2b)]. Educational opportunities offered through independent study may include, but shall not be limited to, the following [EC \$51745(a)]: |  |  |  |  |  |


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|  | i. | Special assignments extending the content of regular courses of instruction. | M |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Individualized study in a particular area of interest or in a subject not currently available in the regular school curriculum. (See Recommended Policy/Practice below) | M |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Individualized alternative education designed to teach the knowledge and skills of the core curriculum. Independent study shall not be provided as an alternative curriculum. | M |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Continuing and special study during travel. | M |  |  |  |  |
| c. | An in <br> part <br> prog <br> of $C$ | with exceptional needs, as defined in Section 56026, shall not independent study, unless his or her individualized education eloped pursuant to Article 3. (commencing with Section 56340 of Part 30 specifically provides for that participation.) | M |  |  |  |  |
| d. |  | y disabled pupil shall not receive individual instruction pendent study. [EC \$48206.3] | M |  |  |  |  |
| e. |  | luded among the courses required for high school graduation 51225.3 shall be offered exclusively through independent 1745 (e)] | M |  |  |  |  |
| f. | Wh <br> dist <br> teac <br> teac <br> or in <br> Thu emp phy | are given for any course of instruction taught in a school grade given to each pupil shall be the grade determined by the e course and the determination of the pupil's grade by the he absence of clerical or mechanical mistake, fraud, bad faith, ncy, shall be final. [EC \$49066 (a)] <br> given for independent study must be given by a teacher the LEA who is appropriately credentialed to teach cation and is identified as the teacher of the course. This | M |  |  |  |  |


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| g. | Teachers who hold a single subject instruction credential or standard secondary credential in physical education are authorized to teach physical education subject matter courses in departmentalized programs. These teachers provide instruction, evaluate students, and assign grades in physical education elective courses [EC \$44256, EC $\$ 49066$ (a)]. | M |  |  |  |  |
| 21 | Online Physical Education |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | The high school diploma requires a minimum of 13 courses plus elective credit to meet the unit requirement specified by the local education agency (LEA). Each local board of education of the LEA has the authority to adopt alternative means, which may include online courses, for pupils to complete the prescribed course of study. [EC $\$ 51225.3$ (2b), EC $\$ 46300.8$, SHAPE Position Statement: Initial Guidelines for Physical Education] | M |  |  |  |  |
| 22 | Summer Learning Programs in Physical Education |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. | The local governing board should ensure that all summer learning programs are aligned with the district's priorities and goals as outlined in the local control and accountability plan (LCAP) [EC \$52060-\$52077] and other applicable district and school plans. Alignment must exist between each summer educational program and the program that is offered during the regular school year. Summer learning programs may include core curricular and/or elective courses. Focusing summer learning programs on at-risk youth and student wellness may be district LCAP priorities. | A |  |  |  |  |
| b. | Summer learning programs in physical education should be offered for credit recovery only, to enable students to meet the high school physical education graduation requirement. Each course must be equivalent to the content offered during the regular school year as well as meeting the instructional minutes required for the credit being given. Extreme care must be used when designing the summer course with consideration of potential negative environmental (heat, poor air quality) and physiological (fatigue) effects upon the learning of motor skills.[LAUSD Memorandum 6232.1] | RP |  |  |  |  |


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| c. | Physical activity recreation summer learning programs should be offered as general elective credit to enhance student wellness if identified as a district LCAP priority. [LAUSD Memorandum 6232.1] | RP |  |  |  |  |
| 23 | Physical Education Program for Individuals with Disabilities |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | All children, unless specifically excused or exempt, are required to receive instruction in physical education program [EC \$51222 and EC \$51241]. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA), and federal regulations define "special education" as specially designed instruction to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability, including instruction in the classroom and instruction in physical education [20 USC \$1401(29), 34 CFR \$300.39]. California Code of Regulations, 5 CCR $\$ 3051.5$, provides: Adapted physical education is for individuals with exceptional needs who require developmental or corrective instruction and who are precluded from participation in the activities of the general physical education program, modified general physical education program, or in a specially designed physical education program in a special class. Consultative services may be provided to pupils, parents, teachers, or other school personnel for the purpose of identifying supplementary aids and services or modifications necessary for successful participation in the regular physical education program or specially designed physical education programs. |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. | All special education, physical education should be provided in such a manner that promotes maximum interaction between children with disabilities and their non-disabled peers. [20 USC $\$ 1412$ (a)(5)(A), 34 CFR $\$ 300.114$, EC $\$ 56342$ (b)] | M |  |  |  |  |
| b. | Each physically handicapped pupil and each pupil who is physically unable to take all of the FITNESSGRAM ${ }^{\circledR}$ physical performance test shall be given as much of the test as his or her condition will permit, or to the maximum extent as identified in the Individualized Education Plan (IEP). [EC $\$ 60800$ (a)] | M |  |  |  |  |


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| 24 | The District will design physical education courses of study and instructional practices based upon the Adapted Physical Education Guidelines in California Schools Revised December 2012, which identifies the types of available physical education programs, the service delivery options available in physical education, the identification procedure for adapted physical education services, the criteria to consider for adapted physical education, the referral process, the assessment process, and teacher credentialing authorizing the teaching of adapted physical education. | RP |  |  |  |  |
|  | Wellness Policy and Physical Education: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | The District recognizes the connection between health and academic achievement. To that end, the District has developed a comprehensive wellness policy that also address physical education as follows: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Local Education Agencies (who receive USDA funding for school meals) are now required to permit teachers of physical education and school health professionals to participate in the development of the LWP. [Local School Wellness Policies Comparison Chart] | M |  |  |  |  |
|  | The below is based on CDE $\mathrm{g} / 7 / 12$ Local School Wellness Policy Letter, SHAPE America Appropriate Instructional Practice Guidelines for High School Physical Education and LAUSD Bulletin 2528.1. |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. | All students in all grades should receive quality physical education instruction in a sequential, comprehensive, enjoyable, safe, and secure learning environment. | RP |  |  |  |  |
| b. | Policy requires adequate space to maximize practice opportunities for each child. | RP |  |  |  |  |
| c. | Policy requires adequate equipment for students to be actively engaged individually, with partners, or in small groups to maximize practice opportunities. | RP |  |  |  |  |
| d. | Policy ensures physical education class sizes are comparable to class sizes for other content areas. | RP |  |  |  |  |


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| e. | Policy specifies Physical Education Instructional Guides that support a written comprehensive and sequential standards-based physical education curriculum provided for all teachers of physical education for use in their classes. | RP |  |  |  |  |
| f. | Policy ensures all students in Grade 9 are enrolled in a Physical Education course to participate in the required FITNESSGRAM ® [EC S 60800] | M |  |  |  |  |
| g. | Policy offers extracurricular physical activity programs for elementary, middle, and high school students before and after school with physical activity clubs or intramural programs, in a variety of supervised activities and summer learning programs. | RP |  |  |  |  |
| 25 | Additional Opportunities for Physical Activity: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Strategies to create additional opportunities for physical activity include, but are not limited to, joint use of schools and recreation facilities, safe routes to schools programs, before and after school programs, extracurricular and co-curricular activities, student organizations and clubs, longer lunch periods, and recess. [Local School Wellness Policy, Institute of Medicine, Center for Disease Control [CDC]: Comprehensive School Physical Activity Programs] |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. | The District shall develop strategies to provide students with additional opportunities to be physically active before the school day. | RP |  |  |  |  |
| b. | The District shall develop strategies to provide students with additional opportunities to be physically active during the school day. | RP |  |  |  |  |
| c. | The District shall develop strategies to provide students with additional opportunities to be physically active after the school day. | RP |  |  |  |  |
| 26 | Timeline for Implementation: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | This timeline, while based on lessons learned from Los Angeles Unified School District's Implementation Plan, may be adjusted to meet district needs. |  |  |  |  |  |


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| a. | The District is to be in full compliance with the provision of the Education Code, applicable regulations, and this policy within two years of the adoption of this policy. | RP |  |  |  |  |
| b. | The District shall use the results of this baseline assessment to determine an action plan that will address any identified needs. | RP |  |  |  |  |
| c. | The District shall within 3 months of the adoption of this policy develop an action plan and timeline for ensuring implementation. | RP |  |  |  |  |
| 27 | Ongoing Monitoring \& Evaluation: |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall select not less than 10 percent of the school districts of the state to report compliance with physical education provisions set forth in paragraph (1). The school districts selected shall provide a random and accurate sampling of the state as a whole. [EC \$51210.1 (b)(2)] |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Each school district selected by the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction in the Coordinated Compliance Review (or Federal Program Monitoring) as to the extent of its compliance with subdivision $(g)$ of Section 51210 for grades 1 to 6, inclusive, during that school year. [EC \$51210.1 (b)(1)] | M |  |  |  |  |
| b. | A school district that fails to comply with the existing statutory requirements shall issue a corrective action plan to the State Department of Education in accordance with the Coordinated Compliance Review process. [EC \$51210.1(d)] The program evaluation occurs with Federal Program Monitoring. | M |  |  |  |  |
| c. | Tools for Ongoing Monitoring \& Reporting - District Administrators should collaborate with teachers, students, and parents when using the California Physical Education Checklist to monitor physical education programs for compliance with California Education Code and Regulations and monitor identified program targets. Findings related to the physical education components of the Wellness Policy should be made available to the education community. [Wellness Policy/Institute of Medicine- Educating the Student Body Recommendations] | RP |  |  |  |  |


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28

## Complaint Process:

a. The District shall develop its own complaint process, or utilize the uniform complaint process for receiving, investigating, and resolving complaints regarding physical education compliance. (Uniform

b. The complaint process shall be communicated to parents and community members on an annual basis. (Uniform Complaint, Report to the CDE)

Annual Reporting to the local School Board of Education on Compliance:
a. The District shall report as required by the local governing board the number of instructional minutes offered in physical education for each pupil, the number of two-year and permanent exemptions granted pursuant to EC $\$ 51241$, any complaints received, and any other data agreed upon by the Board and the District to evaluate program quality, compliance, and the effectiveness of the District's program in meeting the above goals for physical education.
b. The District shall also report annually to the local governing board the physical fitness testing results for each school and applicable grade level RP [Local School Wellness Policy].
 Local Sthoint

## References

1 Emma Sanchez et. al., Physical Education Policy Compliance and Children's Physical Fitness, 42(5) Am. J. Prev. Med. 452-59 (2012)
2 S Holtby, E Zahnd, N Lordi, C McCain, YJ Chia, JH Kurata. Health of California's Adults, Adolescents and Children: Findings from CHIS 2003 and CHIS 2001.Los Angeles, CA: UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, 2006.

3 SHAPE America \& American Heart Association. (2010). 2010 Shape of the nation report: Status of physical education in the USA. Reston, VA
4 As accessed on 8/8/15 Physical Fitness Testing from the California Department of Education's website at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/pf/pftresults.asp

5 As accessed on $1 / 27 / 15$, Physical Education Framework for California Public Schools Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve from the California Department of Education's website at http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/pe/cf/documents/peframework2009.pdf

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