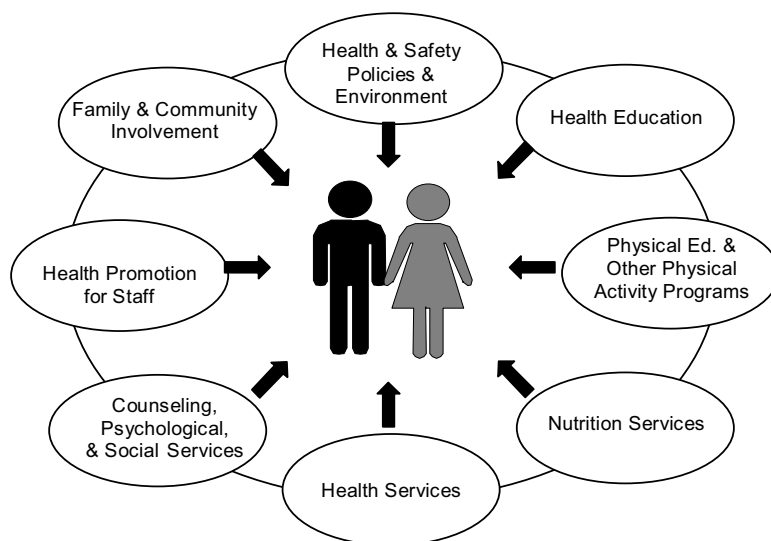


Module 3: Physical Education and Other Physical Activity Programs

Instructions for Module Coordinator

Habits and practices related to health and safety are influenced by the entire school environment. That's why the School Health Index has eight different modules, which correspond to the eight components of a coordinated school health program in the figure below.



Instructions for completing the module

1. Work with the site coordinator to organize a team to complete the module's documents. Below are some suggested members of the Module 3 team.

Physical education teacher
Teacher(s)
Coach(es)
School nurse

Parent(s)
Student(s)
Community member(s)
Assistant principal

2. Make a photocopy of the module Discussion Questions (pages 5-12) for each Module 3 team member. Make at least one photocopy of the module Score Card (page 3) and the module Planning Questions (pages 13-14).
3. Give each Module 3 team member a copy of the Module 3 Discussion Questions. Use the copies of the module Score Card and the Planning Questions to record the team's work. Put the originals of these documents away in case you need to make more photocopies.

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4. At a Module 3 team meeting:
- Discuss each of the Module 3 Discussion Questions and its scoring choices.
 - Decide how to collect any information you need to answer each question accurately.
 - After you have all the information you need, arrive at a consensus score for each question. Answer each question as accurately as possible. The School Health Index is **your** self-assessment tool for identifying strengths and weaknesses and for planning improvements; it should not be used for evaluating staff.
 - Record the scores (0-3) for each question on the module Score Card and calculate the overall Module Score.
 - Use the scores written on the module Score Card to complete the Planning Questions at the end of the module.
 - Use the results from the third Planning Question to identify the one, two, or three highest priority actions that you will recommend to the School Health Index team for implementation this year.
 - Use the answers to the Planning Questions to decide how you will present your results and recommendations at the follow-up School Health Index team meeting.

We wish you success in your efforts to improve the health and safety of young people!

Module 3: Physical Education and Other Physical Activity Programs

Score Card (photocopy before using)

Instructions

- Carefully read and discuss the Module 3 Discussion Questions (pages 5-12), which contains questions and scoring descriptions for each item listed on this Score Card.
- Circle the most appropriate score for each item.
- After all questions have been scored, calculate the overall Module Score and complete the Module 3 Planning Questions located at the end of this module (pages 13-14).

		Fully in Place	Partially in Place	Under Develop- ment	Not in Place
PA.1	150 minutes of physical education per week	3	2	1	0
PA.2	Adequate teacher/student ratio	3	2	1	0
PA.3	Sequential physical education curriculum consistent with standards	3	2	1	0
PA.4	Health-related physical fitness	3	2	1	0
PA.5	Students active at least 50% of class time	3	2	1	0
PA.6	Teachers avoid practices that result in student inactivity	3	2	1	0
PA.7	Physical education is enjoyable	3	2	1	0
PA.8	Promote community physical activities	3	2	1	0
PA.9	Credentialed physical education teachers	3	2	1	0
PA.10	Professional development for teachers	3	2	1	0
PA.11/A.1	Address special health care needs	3	2	1	0
PA.12/ S.1/A.2	Physical education safety practices	3	2	1	0
PA.13/S.2	Playgrounds meet safety standards	3	2	1	0

COLUMN TOTALS: For each column, add up the numbers that are circled and enter the sum in this row.

(If you decide to skip any of the topic areas, make sure you adjust the denominator for the Module Score (39) by subtracting 3 for each question eliminated).

<p>TOTAL POINTS: Add the four sums above and enter the total to the right.</p>			
<p>MODULE SCORE = (Total Points / 39) X 100</p>			%

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Module 3: Physical Education and Other Physical Activity Programs

Discussion Questions

PA.1 150 minutes of physical education per week

Do all students in each grade receive physical education* for at least 150 minutes per week** throughout the school year?

**Physical education means structured physical education classes or lessons, not recess.*

***Physical education classes should be spread over at least three days per week, with daily physical education preferable.*

3 = Yes.

2 = 90-149 minutes per week for all students in each grade throughout the school year.

1 = 60-89 minutes per week for all students in each grade throughout the school year.

0 = Fewer than 60 minutes per week **or** not all students receive physical education throughout the school year.

PA.2 Adequate teacher/student ratio

Do physical education classes have a student/teacher ratio comparable* to that of other classes?

NOTE: Aides and volunteers should not be counted as teachers in the student/teacher ratio.

**Comparable means approximately the same number of students per teacher as in other classes.*

3 = Yes.

2 = The ratio is somewhat larger (up to one and a half times larger) than the ratio for most other classes.

1 = The ratio is considerably larger (more than one and a half times larger), but there are plans to reduce it.

0 = The ratio is considerably larger (more than one and a half times larger), and there are no plans to reduce it.

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PA.3 Sequential physical education curriculum consistent with standards

Do all who teach physical education use a sequential* physical education curriculum that is consistent** with state or national standards for physical education (see standards below)?

**Sequential means a curriculum that builds on concepts taught in preceding years.*

***Consistent means that the curriculum addresses the key learning objectives identified by the standards.*

3 = Yes.

2 = Some use a sequential physical education curriculum, and it is consistent with state or national standards.

1 = Some use a sequential physical education curriculum, but it is not consistent with state or national standards.

0 = None do, **or** the curriculum is not sequential, **or** there is no physical education curriculum.

National Standards for Physical Education
(For Question PA.3)

A physically educated person can do the following:

1. Demonstrate competency in many movement forms and proficiency in a few movement forms.
2. Apply movement concepts and principles to the learning and development of motor skills.
3. Exhibit a physically active lifestyle.
4. Achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness.
5. Demonstrate responsible personal and social behavior in physical activity settings.
6. Demonstrate understanding and respect for differences among people in physical activity settings.
7. Understand that physical activity provides opportunities for enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and social interaction.

National Association for Sport and Physical Education. *Moving into the Future: National Standards for Physical Education*. Boston: WCB/McGraw-Hill; 1995.

PA.4 Health-related physical fitness

Does the physical education program integrate instruction* on health-related fitness** into most lessons throughout the year?

**Integrate instruction means provide opportunities for students to develop and practice skills in areas such as*

- ✓ *behavioral skills related to health-related fitness (e.g., goal-setting, decision-making, self-monitoring)*
- ✓ *assessment of health-related fitness (fitness test)*
- ✓ *interpretation and use of fitness test results*

***Health-related fitness means cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, muscular strength, muscular endurance, and body composition.*

3 = Yes, into most lessons.

2 = Into about half the lessons.

1 = Into fewer than half the lessons.

0 = Into none of the lessons, **or** there is no physical education program.

PA.5 Students active at least 50% of class time

Do teachers keep students moderately to vigorously active* at least 50% of the time** during most or all physical education class sessions?

**Moderately to vigorously active means engaging in physical activity that is equal in intensity to or more strenuous than fast walking.*

***At least 50% of the time means at least half of the total time scheduled for a physical education class session.*

3 = Yes, during most or all classes.

2 = During about half the classes.

1 = During fewer than half the classes.

0 = During none of the classes, **or** there are no physical education classes.

PA.6 Teachers avoid practices that result in student inactivity

Do teachers avoid using practices* that result in some students spending considerable time being inactive in physical education classes?

**Examples of such practices include*

- ✓ *using games that eliminate students*
- ✓ *having many students stand in line or on the sidelines watching others and waiting for a turn*
- ✓ *organizing activities in which fewer than half of the students have a piece of equipment and/or a physically active role*
- ✓ *allowing highly skilled students to dominate activities and games*

3 = They never use such practices.

2 = They rarely use such practices.

1 = They occasionally use such practices.

0 = They frequently use such practices, **or** there are no physical education classes.

PA.7 Physical education is enjoyable

Do most students, including most who are athletically gifted and most who are not as athletically gifted, find physical education an enjoyable and fun experience?

3 = Yes, most of one group and most of the other group find it enjoyable.

2 = Most of one group but few of the other group find it enjoyable.

1 = Few in both groups find it enjoyable.

0 = Hardly anyone in either group finds it enjoyable, **or** there is no physical education.

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PA.8 Promote community physical activities

Does the physical education program promote student participation in a variety of community physical activity options* through three or more methods**?

Examples of **community physical activity options include clubs, teams, recreational classes, special events such as community fun runs, and use of playgrounds, parks, and bike paths.*

***Examples of **methods** include*

- ✓ *class discussions*
- ✓ *bulletin boards*
- ✓ *public address announcements*
- ✓ *guest speakers who promote community programs*
- ✓ *take-home flyers*
- ✓ *homework assignments*
- ✓ *newsletter articles*
- ✓ *academic credit for participating in community physical activities and programs*

3 = Yes, through three or more methods.

2 = The program promotes participation in a variety of community physical activity options, but through only one or two methods.

1 = The program promotes participation in only one type of community physical activity option.

0 = The program does not promote participation in community physical activity options, **or** there is no physical education program.

PA.9 Credentialed physical education teachers

Are all physical education classes taught by credentialed* physical education teachers?

****Credentialed** means teachers who have been awarded a credential by the state, permitting them to teach physical education.*

3 = Yes, all are.

2 = Most classes are.

1 = Some classes are.

0 = No classes are, **or** there are no physical education classes.

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PA.10 Professional development for teachers

Do all who teach physical education participate at least once a year in professional development/continuing education* in physical education?

**Professional development/continuing education means on-site (e.g., school, district) and off-site (e.g., city, state, national) training opportunities.*

3 = Yes, all do.

2 = Most do.

1 = Some do.

0 = None do, or no one teaches physical education.

PA.11/A.1 Address special health care needs

Does the physical education program consistently use all or most of the following practices as appropriate to include students with special health care needs*?

- ✓ encouraging active participation; modifying type, intensity, and length of activity if indicated in Individualized Education Plans, asthma action plans, or 504 Plans
- ✓ offering adapted physical education classes
- ✓ using modified equipment and facilities
- ✓ ensuring that students with chronic medical conditions are fully participating in physical activity
- ✓ monitoring signs and symptoms of chronic medical conditions
- ✓ encouraging students to self-carry and self-administer their medications (including pre-medicating and/or responding to asthma symptoms) in the gym and on playing fields; assisting students who do not self-carry
- ✓ encouraging students to conduct self-testing (i.e., using a peak flow meter) in the gym and on playing fields (if the parent/guardian, health care provider, and school nurse so advise); assisting students who do not self-test
- ✓ using a second teacher, aide, physical therapist, or occupational therapist to assist students, as needed
- ✓ using peer teaching (e.g., teaming students without special health care needs with students who have such needs)

** Examples of special health care needs include learning disabilities, developmental disabilities, behavioral disorders, physical disabilities, temporary physical limitations, and chronic medical conditions such as diabetes, asthma, and scoliosis.*

3 = Yes, the physical education program uses all or most of these instructional practices consistently.

2 = The physical education program uses some of these instructional practices consistently.

1 = The physical education program uses some of these instructional practices, but not consistently (that is, not by all teachers or not in all classes that include students with special health care needs).

0 = The program uses none of these practices, or there is no physical education program.

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PA. 12/S. S.1/A.2 Physical education safety practices

Does the physical education program implement and enforce all of the following safety practices?

- ✓ practice active supervision*
- ✓ encourage prosocial behaviors**
- ✓ use protective clothing and safety gear that is appropriate to child’s size and in good shape
- ✓ use safe, age-appropriate equipment
- ✓ minimize exposure to sun, smog, and extreme temperatures
- ✓ use infection control practices for handling blood and other body fluids
- ✓ monitor the environment to reduce exposure to potential allergens or irritants (e.g., pollen, bees, strong odors)

Active supervision means using practices such as observing, listening to students, anticipating and effectively responding to unsafe situations, discouraging pushing and bullying, and promoting prosocial behaviors. *

***Prosocial behaviors are cooperation, conflict resolution, and helping others.*

3 = Yes, all these safety practices are followed.

2 = All these safety practices are followed, but at times the school has temporary lapses in implementing or enforcing one of them.

1 = One of these safety practices is not followed, or at times the school has temporary lapses in implementing or enforcing more than one of them.

0 = More than one of these safety practices is not followed, or there is no physical education program.

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PA.13/S.2 Playgrounds meet safety standards

Does the school or district ensure that playgrounds meet or exceed recommended safety standards for design, installation, and maintenance, in all of the following ways?

NOTE: Please disregard any standard that is not relevant for your campus.

- ✓ using recommended safety surfaces under playground equipment
- ✓ using equipment designed with spaces and angles that preclude entrapment
- ✓ designating boundaries around equipment (e.g., swings) so that students on foot are unlikely to be struck
- ✓ separating playgrounds from motor vehicle and bicycle traffic
- ✓ maintaining equipment for safe use and removing unsafe equipment
- ✓ ensuring that staff are trained in developmental appropriateness of different types of playground equipment
- ✓ developing, implementing, and enforcing rules for safe use of the playground (e.g., no running or pushing, no use of age-inappropriate equipment)

3 = Yes, all these safety standards are met.

2 = All these safety standards are met, but at times the school has temporary lapses in implementing or enforcing one of them.

1 = One of these safety standards is not met, **or** at times the school has temporary lapses in implementing or enforcing more than one of them.

0 = More than one of these safety standards is not met, **or** there are no playgrounds.

Module 3: Physical Education and Other Physical Activity Programs

Planning Questions *(photocopy before using)*

The Module 3 Planning Questions will help your school use its *School Health Index* results to identify and prioritize changes that will improve policies and programs to improve students' health and safety.

Planning Question 1

Look back at the scores you assigned to each question. According to these scores, what are the **strengths** and the **weaknesses** of your school's physical education and other physical activity policies and programs?

Planning Question 2

For each of the weaknesses identified above, list several recommended actions to improve the school's scores (e.g., provide 150 minutes of physical education per week).

Continued on next page

