

By: Nelson, Shapleigh  
West

S.B. No. 891

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the public school physical education curriculum.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 28.002, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) The physical education curriculum required under Subsection (a)(2)(C) must be sequential, developmentally appropriate, and designed, implemented, and evaluated to enable students to develop the motor, self-management, and other skills, knowledge, attitudes, and confidence necessary to participate in physical activity throughout life. Each school district shall establish specific objectives and goals the district intends to accomplish through the physical education curriculum. In identifying the essential knowledge and skills of physical education, the State Board of Education shall ensure that the curriculum:

(1) emphasizes the knowledge and skills capable of being used during a lifetime of regular physical activity;

(2) is consistent with national physical education standards for:

(A) the information that students should learn about physical activity; and

(B) the physical activities that students should be able to perform;

1           (3) requires that, on a weekly basis, at least 50  
2 percent of the physical education class be used for actual student  
3 physical activity and that the activity be, to the extent  
4 practicable, at a moderate or vigorous level;

5           (4) offers students an opportunity to choose among  
6 many types of physical activity in which to participate;

7           (5) offers students both cooperative and competitive  
8 games;

9           (6) meets the needs of students of all physical  
10 ability levels, including students who have a disability, chronic  
11 health problem, or other special need that precludes the student  
12 from participating in regular physical education instruction but  
13 who might be able to participate in physical education that is  
14 suitably adapted and, if applicable, included in the student's  
15 individualized education program;

16           (7) takes into account the effect that gender and  
17 cultural differences might have on the degree of student interest  
18 in physical activity or on the types of physical activity in which a  
19 student is interested;

20           (8) teaches self-management and movement skills;

21           (9) teaches cooperation, fair play, and responsible  
22 participation in physical activity;

23           (10) promotes student participation in physical  
24 activity outside of school; and

25           (11) allows physical education classes to be an  
26 enjoyable experience for students.

27           SECTION 2. Subchapter D, Chapter 25, Education Code, is

1 amended by adding Section 25.114 to read as follows:

2 Sec. 25.114. STUDENT/TEACHER RATIOS IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION  
3 CLASSES. In implementing the curriculum for physical education  
4 under Section 28.002(a)(2)(C), each school district shall  
5 establish specific objectives and goals the district intends to  
6 accomplish through the curriculum, including, to the extent  
7 practicable, student/teacher ratios that are small enough to enable  
8 the district to:

9 (1) carry out the purposes of and requirements for the  
10 physical education curriculum as provided under Section 28.002(d);  
11 and

12 (2) ensure the safety of students participating in  
13 physical education.

14 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
15 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
16 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
17 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
18 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.