

Blackwell Elementary School
2105 West Furguson
Blackwell, OK 74631

February 10, 2022

Oklahoma State Board of Education
Oklahoma State Department of Education Oliver Hodge Building
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

Dear Oklahoma State Board of Education Members,

It is with full confidence that I endorse the new Oklahoma Academic Standards for Physical Education and Health. I applaud the work completed by the standards writing teams.

I feel strongly that these standards will provide our students with the concepts and skills needed to be health and physically literate individuals. These new standards are clear, concise, and comprehensive. Teachers will be able to understand how to take and apply them for engaging student lessons.

I support the new Oklahoma Academic Standards for Physical Education and Health and ask you to approve the revised 2022 standards. Thank you to all who worked to build the movement for a healthier Oklahoma.

Best regards,



Jennifer Hankins

Early Elementary Principal, PreK-2nd



Nichols Hills Elementary

1301 W Wilshire, Oklahoma City, 73116

Dear Oklahoma State Board of Education,

We are writing a letter of support for the proposed Oklahoma Academic Standards Health and Physical Education. In reading these proposed standards we see the growth and progression that is so necessary in the improvement of our students' lives.

We are very appreciative of the approach in bringing to the forefront topics such as mental health and wellness, substance use and abuse prevention, healthy relationships, and injury prevention and personal health. As we see our students grow in themselves and within our communities, we want to ensure they are given real life tools and resources to make the best decision for themselves, and their families.

We support these new Oklahoma Academic Standards for Health and Physical Education. We ask that you approve the revised 2022 standards.

Thank you to those that wrote these standards, as we know they will allow our students to live healthier lives.

Best regards,

Carla Bow

Cindy Stagner

Carla Bow, Elementary PE Teacher

Cindy Stanger, Elementary Health Teacher



NORTHEASTERN

STATE UNIVERSITY

February 11, 2022

Oklahoma State Board of Education
Oklahoma State Department of Education Oliver Hodge Building
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

Dear Oklahoma State Board of Education Members,

As an assistant professor and intern coordinator for the College of Education in the Health and Kinesiology Department at Northeastern State University, I support the new Oklahoma Academic Standards for Physical Education and Health.

During the process, my advice and expertise was sought out to ensure that the new standards:

1. Express a clear progression from grade-to-grade;
2. Have clear and concise language;
3. Provide opportunities for students to develop health-related and motor skills.

I feel strongly that these standards will provide our students with the concepts and skills needed to be health and physically literate individuals.

I encourage you to approve the revised 2022 standards, because these standards will assist me in strengthening teacher preparation. These standards are for Oklahoma by Oklahoma. The standards will support the movement for a healthier Oklahoma.

Best regards,

Shelia A. Fritts
Assistant Professor/Intern Coordinator



December 3, 2021

Superintendent Joy Hofmeister
State Superintendent of Education
Oklahoma State Department of Education

Re: Physical Education and Health Standards

Dear Superintendent Hofmeister:

As the Executive Director of the **Oklahoma Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance** (OAHPERD), I am writing to provide support on behalf of OAHPERD Board and Council members regarding the proposed new academic standards for Physical Education and Health. Our Board and Council has had an opportunity to review the standards, and we fully support these for their clarity, age appropriateness, inclusion of diversity, and promotion of healthy and physically active lifestyles.

We are grateful to the Oklahoma State Department of Education and all of its partners for engaging in this process and for offering our membership an opportunity to review and provide comment. Quality education includes health and physical education, as this sets a strong foundation for student learning and a healthy life.

Once again, we are in full support of the new standards for Physical Education and Health. We thoroughly believe that these standards, enacted with support for teachers, can have a positive effect on student well-being and the health indicators of our state.

Sincerely,

Lauren Loucks, Ed.D.
Executive Director, OAHPERD

Oklahoma State Board of Education Members,

I am writing a letter of support for the recently revised Oklahoma Academic Standards for Health Education and Physical Education (PreK-12). I see the value in promoting and maintaining healthy lifestyle choices through health education for students. Quality physical education and health programming is instrumental in addressing the health and well-being of Oklahoma children.

To develop “physically literate” children, it is of the upmost importance Oklahoma update current Health and Physical Education standards that support the development of physical education and health, as well as the promotion of lifelong physical activity. As you may be aware, the last revision for Oklahoma physical education standards took place in 2016. The newly revised standards accommodate several shifts including:

- Greater emphasis on specific content-based objectives for the topics of nutrition, physical activity, mental health, substance abuse, coping skills, and responsible decision making (SB 89).
- Greater emphasis on connections between physical and mental well-being (HB 1568: Maria’s Law).

The standards and grade level outcomes in the revised Oklahoma Academic Standards for Health and Physical Education provide the foundation necessary to move Oklahoma forward in developing healthy students. Thank you for your time and consideration. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Carrie Slatton-Hodges, MS, LPC
Commissioner

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School Nurse Organization of Oklahoma

Superintendent Joy Hofmeister
State Superintendent of Education
Oklahoma State Department of Education
Oliver Hodge Building 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

December 14, 2021

Dear Superintendent Hofmeister,

We have had the opportunity to review a working draft of the new Oklahoma Academic Standards for Health Education and participate in the Health Curricula Focus Group.

The School Nurse Organization of Oklahoma is proud to endorse these new standards as they are being presented. We commend the State Department of Education and all of the participants across the state who gave of their time in developing these standards. It is evident that these standards were developed thoughtfully and after critical analysis.

These new Health Education Standards are in line with CDCs Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model for addressing Health in Schools. It is our belief that these new standards will serve our state well in preparing our students to make critical decisions that will impact their life long health. We especially applaud the emphasis on growing our students' abilities to access valid information, products and services to health across the life span.

Thank you very much for your leadership and hard work in promoting health education for all Oklahoma Students.

Beverly S. Burk MA, BSN, RN

Beverly S. Burk, MA, BSN, R.N.
President School Nurse Organization of Ok
Health Services Coordinator
Jenks Public Schools

La Rita Haffey MSN.ed, R.N.

La Rita Haffey, MSN.ed, R.N.
President Elect, School Nurse Organization of Ok
District Nurse Health Coordinator
Shawnee Public Schools

1/5/2022

Oklahoma State Department of Education
Oliver Hodge Building
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Oklahoma State Board of Education:

The It's All About Kids School Health Program of the Tulsa City-County Health Department endorses the newly developed Oklahoma State Standards in Health and Physical Education.

We appreciate the rigorous process through which the Oklahoma State Standards in Health and Physical Education were written. We feel confident that these standards will provide Oklahoma educators clarity as they prepare for instructing their students in health and physical education. We fully anticipate that when appropriately followed, the new standards will better equip Oklahoma students with the knowledge and skills needed to improve their quality of life. Our program is ready to align with the new Oklahoma State Standards in Health and Physical Education, and we look forward to these standards being approved.

We ask that you approve these standards as our new Oklahoma State Standards in Health & Physical Education.

Sincerely,



Charley Daniel, MA, CHES
School Health Manager, It's All About Kids
Tulsa City-County Health Department



January 7, 2022

To the Oklahoma State Board of Education,

The Oklahoma Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust (TSET) is pleased to support the proposed Oklahoma Academic Standards for physical education and health education. TSET has a constitutional mandate to support programs that improve the health of Oklahomans, especially programs benefitting children. The TSET Board of Directors has passed resolutions in support of health education and other measures to curb the rise in childhood obesity.

Because healthy behaviors learned early in life are more likely to become lifelong habits, it is vital that the youngest Oklahomans are provided with comprehensive health and physical education. These academic standards do that, while also integrating health education with other coursework and academic objectives.

That integration will provide a great opportunity for health topics to be taught across multiple disciplines throughout the school environment. We believe this integration is a necessary approach for implementing comprehensive health education.

Additionally, the proposed standards acknowledge the importance of outdoor activities, address mental health as well as physical health and encourage young people to develop health and fitness knowledge and habits that can be continued into adulthood.

Oklahoma, like much of the nation, has seen a rise in childhood obesity and that trend will have repercussions for decades. It has even been predicted that the youngest Oklahoma generation may be the first to experience shorter average lifespans than their parents.

By ensuring that Oklahoma students receive appropriate health education and physical education, these academic standards are a good first step in reversing those troubling trends and improving the health of Oklahomans.

Sincerely,

Julie Bisbee
Executive Director