

**Policy**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

The Mount Laurel Township School District Board of Education directs that the district's curricular and extracurricular programs of physical education and activities comply with the district's affirmative action resolution and equity plan for school and classroom practices as stipulated in policies 2224, 5145.4, 6121 and 6145 in this manual. The board shall ensure that the comprehensive health and physical education curriculum addresses all elements required by the Core Curriculum Content Standards.

General Provisions

In general, physical education classes shall not be divided on the basis of sex. The quality and quantity of teachers, equipment and facilities shall be equivalent among the schools and comparable from level to level, taking into account the needs of the pupils.

Members of district interscholastic athletic teams may be excused from participation in the physical activities part of their physical education program without loss of graduation credit on the request of their coach on any day on which they are designated to participate in a regularly scheduled game. The chief school administrator shall approve procedures by which coaches will inform the physical education department, on the day in question, of the specific pupils to be excused. Such pupils shall be scheduled for a study hall period instead.

The board will consider on a case-by-case basis requests from pupils or their parents/guardians in the case of minors for permission to satisfy the physical education requirement through an alternative program of athletics or physical education activities that meets the requirements of law and is consistent with the district's physical education program goals and instructional objectives.

Dating Violence

For pupils in grades 7 and 8, physical education and health curriculum will include the topic of dating violence. "Dating violence" means a pattern of behavior where one person threatens to use, or actually uses physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to control a dating partner.

Dating violence education shall include information on the definition of dating violence, recognizing dating violence warning signs, and the characteristics of healthy relationships.

Upon written request to the school principal, a parent/legal guardian of a pupil less than 18 years of age shall be permitted within a reasonable period of time after the request is made, to examine the dating violence education program instruction materials developed by the school district.

The purpose of the dating violence information is to help prevent dating situations from becoming unsafe and to help educate pupils on constructive ways to resolve conflicts in personal relationship.

To be consistent with P.L. 2011, c. 64, school policy, procedures and curriculum shall include the following information:

- A. Dating violence will not be tolerated;
- B. Dating violence reporting procedures;
- C. Guidelines for responding to at-school incidents of dating violence;

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH (continued)

- D. Discipline procedures specific to at-school incidents of dating violence;
- E. Warning signs of dating violence; and
- F. Information on safe and appropriate school, family, peer, and community resources available to address dating violence shall also be included within the curriculum.

Adopted: May 24, 2005  
 Revised: December 20, 2011  
 NJSBA Review/Update: June 2013  
 Readopted: January 28, 2014

Key Words

Nondiscrimination, Physical Education, Health, Affirmative Action

**Legal References:** N.J.S.A. 18A:6-111 et seq. Instruction in Suicide Prevention  
See particularly:  
N.J.S.A. 18A:6-113 Instruction in suicide prevention in public school curriculum  
N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.19 through -4.22 AIDS Prevention Act of 1999  
N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.23 Dating violence into health education curriculum  
N.J.S.A. 18A:35-5 through -9 Maintenance of physical training courses; features  
N.J.S.A. 18A:37-33 through -37 Dating violence policy and education  
N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.7 Equality in school and classroom practices  
N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.1 Curriculum and instruction  
N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1 Graduation requirements  
N.J.A.C. 6A:9-5.19 Athletics Personnel  
N.J.A.C. 6A:9-11.8 Health and physical education  
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-9.1 Athletics Procedures  
N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.1 et seq. General Provisions for School Health Services  
See particularly:  
N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2

20 U.S.C.A. 1681 et seq. - Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

The Comprehensive Equity Plan, New Jersey State Department of Education

**Possible**

**Cross References:** \*2224 Nondiscrimination/affirmative action  
 \*5145.4 Equal educational opportunity  
 \*6121 Nondiscrimination/affirmative action  
 \*6142 Subject fields  
 \*6145.1/6145.2 Intramural competition; interscholastic competition  
 \*6146 Graduation requirements

\*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.