

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

Proposes to add physical education as a state-required academic standard, require the posting of local district wellness policies on district Web sites, require the education department to develop recess guidelines for school districts, and establish a program to reward schools where students are physically active.

Section

1 Required academic standards. Adds physical education to the list of state-required academic standards.

Makes this section effective for all students beginning in the 2012-2013 school year and later. Allows school districts and charter schools to implement the standards earlier.

2 Revising and reviews required. Strikes references to physical education as a local standard. Directs the commissioner to use the good cause exemption rulemaking to amend state physical education standards to conform with the national standards.

Makes this section effective for all students beginning in the 2012-2013 school year and later. Allows school districts and charter schools to implement the standards earlier. Makes paragraph (h) effective in the 2013-2014 school year.

3 Local school district wellness policies; Web site. Requires the local school wellness policy to be posted on a school district's Web site if it exists.

Makes this section effective August 1, 2010.

4 **Department of Education.**

Subd. 1. Recess guidelines. Encourages the department to develop guidelines for school districts that promote quality recess practices and behaviors.

Subd. 2. Common course catalogue. Encourages the department to make districts' physical education classes part of the common course catalogue.

Subd. 3. Standards adoption. Directs the commissioner to use expedited rule making to adopt initial physical education standards by July 1, 2010, that are identical to national physical education standards. Allows the revisor to make technical corrections to these standards.

Makes this section immediately effective.

5 **Healthy kids awards program.**

Subd. 1. Establishment. Establishes the K-12 healthy kids awards program to reward students for nutritional well-being and physical activity. Intends the program to work to integrate physical activity into other school activities throughout the school day. Requires interested schools to participate in the program annually from October through May.

Subd. 2. Commissioner of education. Directs the commissioner to oversee the program. Directs the commissioner to solicit letters of intent from schools interested in participating in the program and to award schools where at least 75 percent of students engage in physical activity, including physical education classes, at least 60 minutes each day.

Subd. 3. Incentives. Directs the commissioner to seek nonstate funding sources for program awards.

Makes this section effective beginning in the 2010-2011 school year and later.