

## Enhance PE Task Force - July 2013 Events, News and Resource Update

### Events

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#### **July 16, 2013, 10-11am Webinar**

##### **Enhanced P.E.: Making the Connection between Physical Activity, Learning, Behavior & Health**

During this webinar, participants will hear from members of the Enhance P.E. Taskforce, including the State Superintendent of Education and representatives from the Illinois Association of School Administrators, the Illinois Principals Association, and IAHPERD, and a keynote address will be provided by a leading physical education coordinator around the neuroscience that supports the RETURN ON INVESTMENT of enhancing P.E. in schools. This webinar is intended for superintendents, principals, school board members, and other school officials looking to improve student health and academic achievement. Click [here](#) to register or visit [www.iphionline.org](http://www.iphionline.org). This webinar will replay on Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am CST. (9:30am CST) including a LIVE introduction and Q & A! Register [here](#).

#### **August and September Webinar (Dates TBD)**

##### **Enhanced P.E. Task Force**

Be on the lookout for information on our upcoming webinars in August and September. These webinars will describe the recommendations and outcomes of the Enhance P.E. Task Force.

### In the News

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#### **[Should schools make gym class a core subject?](#) (*Futurity Research News*, June 25, 2013)**

Scott Going, a professor of nutritional sciences at the University of Arizona, stresses that it is necessary to make physical education a core subject at school, "It's important for kids to get it for their physical health, for their mental health, that they should get it at school so that all kids gave a chance of meeting the recommendation." Going also discusses that funding is this biggest barrier faced by new physical education programs, but he also adds that, "But if something is important you have to go after it and get it done."

#### **[At Washington, P.E. can count toward GPA](#) (*Peoria Journal Star*, June 23, 2013)**

For the first time, physical education can be factored into a student's grade-point average at Washington Community High School beginning next school year. The principal of the high school, Dr. Jim Dunnan, has also adopted a stricter interpretation of the state regulation allowing students to waive P.E. for an academic class required for college entrance by not granting those waivers for classes that are only recommended or encouraged.

**[Parents ask state to force Buffalo schools to offer more physical education](#) (*The Buffalo News*, June 11, 2013)** Parents of students from Buffalo Public Schools are tired of waiting for the district to implement its new health and wellness plan that was adopted over a year ago and are now taking their case to the state. The schools are failing to comply with a number of state mandates which include physical education classes totaling 120 minutes each week for students' kindergarten through sixth grade. Instead, some students are only receiving one 30-minute period of PE every six days.

[More gym time for kids means less chance of obesity, Cornell study says](#) (*LA Times*, May 21, 2013)

Study finds that “More physical education in kindergarten through fifth grade means less chance of obesity, especially for boys.” The increase in gym time did not replace academic time or harm test scores of students.