

Stakeholder and Expert Task Force on Physical Education



Task Force Summary

March 12, 2015
9:00am-12:00pm

Public Act 98-0859 created the Stakeholder and Expert Task Force on Physical Education. The purpose of this Task Force is to submit recommendations (from which ISBE will adopt rules for implementation of physical fitness assessments and collect and report aggregate fitness information), including methods for ensuring validity and uniformity of fitness scores, including assessment administration protocols and professional development approaches for P.E. teachers; how often fitness scores should be reported to ISBE; grade levels within elementary, middle, and high school categories for which scores should be reported to ISBE; indicators that should be reported to ISBE, including scores for aerobic capacity (grades 4-12), muscular strength, endurance, flexibility; demographic information that should accompany the scores, including, but not limited to, grade and gender; development of protocols to protect students' confidentiality and individual info/identifiers; how fitness scores should be reported by ISBE to the public, including potential correlations with academic achievement, attendance, discipline data; and may also recommend methods for assessing student progress on Goals 19 & 21-24.

Meeting was held via v-tel conferencing at the IL State Board of Education's Chicago Office (James R Thompson Center, 100 West Randolph, VTEL ROOM 14th Floor) AND Springfield Office (100 North 1st Street, VTEL Room 3rd Floor).

Task Force Members Attending: Mark Bishop, Vice President of Policy and Communications, Healthy School Campaign; Elissa Bassler, CEO, Illinois Public Health Institute; Antonio (Tony) Marquez, Chicago Public Schools, designee of Stephanie Whyte; Marjorie Ribeiro, Principal Consultant, Data Analysis and Accountability, Illinois State Board of Education; Timothy A. Sanborn, Division of Cardiology, NorthShore University Health System; Skip Williams, Assistant Professor of PE Teacher Education, School of Kinesiology and Recreation, Illinois State University; Deb Vogel, Retired Physical Education Teacher; Sarah Welch, Evaluation Manager, Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children, Lurie Children's Hospital; Michael Wiggins, Physical Education Teacher, Hinsdale Central High School District 86; Paul Zientarski, Learning Readiness PE Coordinator, Naperville Community School District 203

Advisory Task Force Members: Debbie Izzo, Health Director, Illinois Parent Teacher Association

Members of the Public: N/A

Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Staff: Shawn Backs, Mark Haller

Illinois Public Health Institute Support Staff: Sarah Chusid; Janna Simon

Task Force Members not in attendance: Jean Sophie, Superintendent, Lake Bluff School District 65; Jason Leahy, Executive Director, Illinois Principals Association; Conny Mueller Moody, Assistant Deputy Director, Office of Health Promotion, Illinois Department of Public Health; Kelly Nowak, Vice President, Board of Education, Geneva CUSD 304; Peggy Pryor, Physical Education Teacher, Quincy School District 172; Stephanie Whyte, Chief Health Officer, Chicago Public Schools, represented by Antonio (Tony) Marquez, Chicago Public Schools

Welcome/introductions

The meeting was called to order at 9:05am. Chair Jean Sophie was absent. Per the by-laws, the Task Force appointed Elissa Bassler as presiding officer for the meeting, by majority vote.

Task force members introduced themselves.

Review and approve meeting summary from February 10, 2015

Stakeholder and Expert Task Force on Physical Education



Deb Vogel put forward a motion to approve the summary from the last meeting. Tim Sanborn seconded the motion and the task force unanimously moved to approve the 2/10/15 meeting summary.

Review ISBE data screen shots

Marjurie Ribeiro reviewed the ISBE data collection screen shots.

Discussion Highlights

There was some debate around the denominators collected at the top of the screen shot and whether it should reflect the total number of students tested and the total number of students at the school, or just the total number tested. It was decided that having both numbers would be useful in seeing what percentage of students at any given school were tested (versus opting out) in addition to giving us the denominator we'd need to calculate the percentage of students meeting the healthy fitness zones for each fitness components. There was also more discussion on whether demographic info, such as gender, should be collected. From a public health perspective, there was general agreement that the data would be very useful to have but also high awareness of the difficulties of collecting demographic data in an aggregate reporting form. There were also practical concerns about introducing this level of complexity into the collection/reporting process, both for ISBE and for schools. Out of this discussion emerged a new recommendation to ISBE to launch a voluntary pilot program to collect this data at the local level and explore how it can be reported to ISBE and used at the local level and in state monitoring of student fitness levels (see next section for more information).

Final Review of Report/Recommendations

The task force reviewed and made final edits to the draft final report and recommendations. It was decided to postpone until the final meeting the vote to adopt the recommendations so members could review the new additions and edits beforehand.

Discussion highlights

- Per Jason Leahy's comments, language was added to the suggestion to ISBE to convene a committee of stakeholders to look for additional funding and resources to support implementation of fitness testing to place more emphasis on supporting schools and districts.
- The task force added a new recommendation to have ISBE undertake a pilot data collection program to 1) identify the needed capabilities and challenges of collecting scores and related student level data; and 2) analyze the fitness data in relation to the student-level information to determine whether such correlations provide useful information to support targeted interventions and the value of fitness testing in relation to achievement and discipline. The pilot program would only be for schools that voluntarily want to participate.
- A number of other minor edits/changes were made:
 - Public Act 98-0859 was added as an appendix.
 - In the compendium of resources discussed by the task force (Appendix C), the Presidential Youth Fitness Program resources were moved to the top of the document so they are more prominently featured.
 - Appendix H was originally just the General Brockport Physical Fitness Test Form but more resources were added to make it a compendium of Brockport Physical Fitness Testing Information and Resources.
 - The Fitnessgram Healthy Fitness Zone Standards were added as an appendix (G).
 - For Appendices D-G, the required and alternate tests were highlighted to make clear which are being recommended by the task force. This does not preclude schools/districts from administering the other assessments, but is only clarifying what will be required by the state (if adopted).

Public comment

N/A - There were no members of the public in attendance.

Adjourn

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Deb Vogel put forward a motion to adjourn the meeting. Paul Zientarski seconded the motion and the task force unanimously moved to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:51am.

Meeting Objectives:

1. Finalize and vote to adopt task force recommendations
2. Review data entry screen shots and provide feedback to ISBE
3. Review draft Task Force final report