



**Board Meeting Date:** February 13, 2023

**Title:** Elementary Physical Education Change to the Report Card

**Type:** Information

**Presenter(s):** Jody De St Hubert, Director of Teaching and Learning; and Jamie Hawkinson, Elementary Dean Creek Valley

**Description:** After review of current practices, it has been determined that the current marking of “Demonstrates Fitness” on the elementary Physical Education report card is no longer applicable for grading cycles.

**Historical and Traditional Practices:**

- Added when the Elementary report card changed from letter grades to numbers
- Fitness tests were being administered 3x a year following the President’s Challenge.
  - This challenge included national percentiles for comparison
- Supplemented by Fitnessgram, which ultimately stopped updating percentiles
- In the early 2000s it became apparent that grading fitness was difficult to assess and was not always accurate from comparable observations
- Privacy issues began to arise and increased anxiety around performance became more apparent

**Reasons that “Demonstrates Fitness” is No Longer Applicable:**

- Doesn’t serve the students in the way that it was originally meant to serve
  - Percentiles no longer exist
  - President’s challenge and fitness test benchmarks are non-existent
- Anxiety inducing practice not aligning with our strategic plan Strategy B: Ensure an EQuitable and Inclusive School Culture
- Many students are too young to grasp concept of “skill” and are still learning the skill of movements
- Fitness testing has little value to the learning environment when the belief that students are working towards being active adults with a knowledge of multiple activities and a variety of choices of skills.
- “Demonstrates fitness” is not connected to a specific standard and is currently connected to the overall “concepts and applies” skills section of the report card

**Current Practices:**

- NA as the “Demonstrates Fitness” grade for Semester 1
- Fitness skills are still being taught and practiced
  - PACER test, sit-up challenge, running the mile, etc.
- Focus on teaching the MN state and Edina modified PE standards and benchmarks in

accordance with the most recent review cycle

- More time built in for fitness components to provide more instruction towards encouraging well-rounded, life-long fit students.

**Proposed Change:**

- Remove “Demonstrates Fitness” from the elementary report card to align with the Edina Strategic Plan, Vision, and Mission.

**Recommendation:** Approve the recommendation to remove the current marking of “Demonstrates Fitness” on the elementary Physical Education report card for semester two and moving forward.

**Desired Outcomes from the Board:** Review and approve this recommendation.