

ACTIVE STUDENTS TASK FORCE

Mission

As an outcome of HB 3141, the Beaverton School District established the Active Students Task Force to develop recommendations for continuing to move forward to fulfill the requirements of increased physical education time as outlined in the statute. Beaverton also has an interest in building staff and student knowledge in the area of movement and wellbeing overall.

Background

At the September 29, 2014 meeting the School Board charged the District with forming an Active Students Task Force (ASTF) to ensure timely compliance with HB 3141 and develop a model for students' movement and activity throughout their daily school experience.

Overview

The ASTF determined to break their work into three phases. Phase I would focus on developing potential school-based efforts to not only meet the requirements of HB 3141 but to increase the level of student activity levels, K-12. These potential school-based efforts would then become elements within a proposed set of pilot programs for the 2015-2016 school year.

Phase II would be begin in the spring of 2015, continue through the 2015-2016 school year, and be focused on two efforts. First, details of the approved pilot program would be developed, including a progress monitoring system to analyze the impact of the pilots. Second, the ASTF would begin to study the long-range needs across the BSD to support the needed increases in student activity.

Phase III would occur in the spring of 2016 and be focused on communicating to the School Board a comprehensive set of recommendations for the 2017-2018 school year and beyond.

The Active Student Task Force is currently in Phase II and divided into three sub-committees:

- Pilot Development and Monitoring
- Community Involvement
- Facilities and Staffing

Subcommittee Reports

The Pilot Development and Monitoring Subcommittee identified five schools, three elementary and two middle, that will be participating in the 2015-2016 pilot. The three elementary schools are Bonny Slope, Sexton Mountain and West TV. The two middle schools are Highland Park and Mt. View.

Pilot program development will begin this summer with members of the subcommittee bringing the Physical Education staff from each of the pilot schools together for several days of work focused on refining pilot goals, curriculum development, securing equipment and resources, developing data collection plans, developing community communications, and planning for the presentation of the pilot program to the entire staff at each pilot site. This work team will also meet with leadership teams from each of the pilot schools to discuss the critical element of staff culture and how we might develop a building culture of increased activity and fitness.

The Community Involvement Subcommittee has focused in on four key elements, 1) non-athletes participating intramurals and clubs, 2) increase use of facilities before and after school, 3) increase partnership with community fitness organizations, and 4) minimizing barriers to students participation. This fourth effort will include a look at fees, program funding, and transportation.

The Facilities and Staffing Subcommittee has begun to research the recent BSD Facilities Studies, with particular attention on the DLR Group Report of 2013. DLR was commissioned to complete a study of the BSD PE facilities. Though this report does an excellent job of describing the facilities needed to meet the requirements of HB3141 and was used to develop the Educational Specifications (EdSpecs) for new school construction it does not recommend PE facilities upgrades or new construction needed at existing BSD sites. The Facilities and Staffing Subcommittee will develop a prioritized list of PE facilities needs based on student enrollment, the number of PE sections required to meet the requirements of HB 3141 and square footage of existing PE facilities at each site. This prioritized list of PE facilities needs will be presented to the BSD School Board for consideration under the current and future bonds.

There are numerous other efforts being considered by the Active Student Task Force. These are:

1. Study of the impact of establishing maximum limits on the high school athletic fees collected
2. Establish a "Support a Champion" Grants program within the BSD.
3. Establish Committee to examine ways that BSD can better support external partners who provide physical activity opportunities for BSD students.
4. Schedule elementary recesses to precede the student lunch period.
5. Encourage schools to reach out to underrepresented groups within their community and work together to develop physical activity events using the school facilities.
6. American Heart Association Grant Assistance.
7. The potential for the BSD to become a "Let's Move Active Schools" district.