

# **Society of Health and Physical Educators of Pennsylvania**

## **SHAPE PA**

### **Mission/Commitment:**

**Mission:** “To provide leadership, advocacy and professional development to health and physical educators for overall wellness in Pennsylvania in the most effective and efficient way possible.”

**Commitment:** In doing so, SHAPE PA supports the professions that encourage active and healthy lifestyles for all people in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. SHAPE PA advocates for the following policies related to Health and Physical Education in schools.

### **Public Policy Agenda**

#### **SHAPE PA will:**

1. Advocate for Health Education and Physical Education’s roles and values in contributing to a well-rounded education for students, as identified in Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), through events or communication with legislators, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the Pennsylvania State Board of Education, superintendents, school boards, parents, and other relevant organizations.
  
2. Advocate for quality Health Education and Physical Education programs in schools that include the following Essential Components of Physical Education (SHAPE America 2015):
  - a. Policies that ensure state requirements for Health Education and Physical Education are implemented for all students at all grade levels.
  - b. Curriculum that is based on state and/or national academic standards.
  - c. Appropriate instruction, delivered by teachers with qualifying certification assignments, that addresses the three domains (e.g., affective, cognitive, psychomotor) of learning to ensure the development of health literate and physically literate students.
  - d. Student assessment that provides concrete evidence of student attainment of grade level Health Education and Physical Education standards and outcomes.
  
3. Advocate for filling the vacant position of Health Education and Physical Education Content Advisor at the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) through communication and/or meetings with appropriate PDE staff and, if needed, other relevant bodies such as the PA State Board of Education and the PA State Legislature.

4. Advocate for the vetting and adoption of the recently proposed Health Education and Physical Education academic standards and outcomes through meetings and/or communication with the State Board of Education, the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Pennsylvania State Legislature.

5. Advocate for maintaining recognition in providing content-specific professional development and taking the lead role in offering networking opportunities for Health Education and Physical Education professionals through conferences, workshops, webinars, blogs and social media.

6. Advocate for physical activity before, during and after school to supplement/reinforce skills and concepts taught in health and physical education class by communicating with the building principal and parents.