



National Association for Sport & Physical Education

an association of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance

NASPE Sets the Standard

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STARS PROGRAM OFFERS EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM PROGRAM REVIEW

RESTON, VA, May 31, 2005 – For administrators and physical educators looking for an effective and inexpensive way to conduct a curriculum program review of their school physical education program, the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE) has the answer for you! Encourage your physical education department to apply for STARS, NASPE's national recognition program for outstanding K-12 physical education programs. The next deadline is August 1. Visit the STARS website at www.naspeinfo.org/STARS to get great new ideas for improving your physical education program from the current 23 STARS schools.

Every STARS application portfolio receives a thorough review by three independent experts, based on the national content and opportunity to learn standards for quality physical education programs. Guidelines include educationally and developmentally appropriate instructional strategies and teaching skills, adequate facilities and equipment that are safe and appropriate for the age and abilities of the students and that enable the students to participate in the maximum amount of active time on task, and classes taught by certified physical educators, among others. The cost to apply for a STARS review is only \$150 per school. In return your school will receive a complete evaluation report on 31 criteria that you can use as the basis for curriculum revision and as a tool to advocate for program improvements.

According to NASPE President Thomas J. Templin, Ph.D., department chair and professor of the Department of Health and Kinesiology at Purdue University, "The STARS program offers administrators an assessment of and feedback on the school's physical education program based on standards of excellence. NASPE wants to help schools stimulate their communities to an understanding of quality physical education and the status of the program that is presently available to their children.

"In addition, the STARS process provides an excellent first step for all schools interested in improving their physical education program. When you consider the costs for school districts

to bring in a consultant to guide them through the curriculum review process, this low cost \$150 investment will reap huge dividends!”

For schools receiving the STARS national recognition, the principal and physical education staff will receive a STARS banner to proudly hang in the school, certificates of achievements and valuable product coupons from a number of sponsors of the NASPE STARS program as well as local, state and national recognition from the media and legislators. Recipients will be invited to a celebratory reception at the National Convention of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD), April 25-29, 2006 in Salt Lake City, UT. Programs may continually strive for on-going improvement and higher levels of recognition for their physical education program.

To learn about how your physical education program can apply to become a STARS school, visit the NASPE website at www.naspeinfo.org/STARS. Physical education departments can download the information on the STARS program, application information and form, criteria, and suggestions for providing evidence that the criteria have been met. The next deadline to apply for STARS is August 1, 2005.

Information about the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE) can be found on the Internet at www.naspeinfo.org. NASPE, which has been setting the standard for the profession for over 31 years, is the largest of the six national associations of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance (AAHPERD). A nonprofit membership organization of over 18,000 physical education and sport professionals, NASPE is the only national association dedicated to strengthening basic knowledge about sport and physical education among professionals and the general public. Putting that knowledge into action in schools and communities across the nation is critical to improved academic performance, social reform and the health of individuals. To assess whether your child is receiving a quality physical education program, visit <http://www.aahperd.org/naspe/template.cfm?template=observePE/main.html> for observation tools.