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Board holds first public hearing on new physical education standards

The South Dakota Board of Education held the first of four public hearings on proposed K-12 physical education standards earlier today.

A group of 24 individuals, primarily physical education teachers from across South Dakota, participated in the review and revision of the standards. Their recommendations were brought before the board for first consideration. Three additional public hearings will be held at state board meetings May 19 in Aberdeen, July 21 in Pierre and Sept. 15 in Rapid City.

The proposed standards provide the framework for what students in grades K-8 and two levels in high school should know and be able to do in the subject area of physical education. At the elementary level, the focus is on fundamental motor skills. Middle school standards focus on application of fundamental motor skills and finding a balance of activities to keep all students engaged. In high school, the standards focus on fitness, wellness and lifelong activity.

Decisions regarding curriculum and instruction are made by local school districts.

The last review of South Dakota's physical education standards was conducted in 2000. The South Dakota physical education course standards for high school graduation were developed in 2006.

To view the proposed standards, [click here](#).