

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

Topic: 704 KAR 8:050, Kentucky Academic Standards for Physical Education

Date: June 4-5, 2025

Action Requested: ☐ Review ☐ Action/Consent ☒ Action/Discussion

Held In: ☒ Full Board ☐ State Schools ☐ United We Learn

SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

The issue before the board is to take action on the adoption of 704 KAR 8:050, Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Physical Education. This regulation conforms to KRS 158.6453(18)(a) which requires the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) to implement a comprehensive process for reviewing and revising the academic standards in practical living skills for all levels every six years.

COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Commissioner recommends the adoption of the required academic standards for physical education, as incorporated by reference into 704 KAR 8:050.

APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS 156.070(1), 156.160(1), 158.645, 158.6451, 158.6453(18)(a), 704 KAR 3:305

BACKGROUND:

Existing Policy:

KRS 156.160(1)(a) requires the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) to establish courses of study for the different grades and kinds of common schools, with the courses of study to comply with the expected goals, outcomes, and assessment strategies developed under KRS 158.645, 158.6451, and 158.6453. KRS 156.160(1)(h) further requires the KBE to adopt administrative regulations governing medical inspection, physical and health education and recreation, and other regulations necessary or advisable for the protection of the physical welfare and safety of the public school children.

KRS 158.6453(18)(a) requires the KDE to implement a comprehensive process for reviewing and revising the academic standards in practical living skills for all levels every six years.

This administrative regulation incorporates by reference the required academic standards for physical education, which contain the general courses of study and academic content standards for use in Kentucky's common schools.

Summary of Issue:

Per KRS 158.6453(18)(a), the KDE is required to implement a process for reviewing and revising Kentucky's academic standards every six years. 704 KAR 8:050 was last approved by the KBE in October 2018. Therefore, in order to conform to statutory requirements, the KDE implemented the standards review process for physical education which resulted in a new material incorporated by reference.

704 KAR 8:050 adopts into law the standards for physical education as authorized under KRS 158.6453(18)(a). Curriculum and content decisions require local schools and districts to implement the physical education standards provided in the document incorporated by reference.

Budget Impact:

A total of \$51,594.00 was spent to complete the review and revision of the KAS for PE and the KAS for Health Education as required under KRS 158.6453(18)(a). In addition to the costs accrued thus far, additional staff time will be needed to support schools and districts in the implementation of the physical education standards.

GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:

Public Comment Surveys

The KDE issued two public comment surveys that received a total of 119 respondents from a broad range of stakeholder groups, including teachers, retired educators, administrators, parents/guardians, postsecondary educators, business/community members and students. Responses were favorable with 95% accepting the revised physical education standards "as is."

Local Superintendents Advisory Council (LSAC)

The regulation will go before the LSAC at its May 27, 2025, meeting. A summary of the feedback received by the council will be provided to the KBE prior to its June 2025 meeting.

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