## **POLICY TITLE: Physical Activity Opportunities and Physical Education**

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**Physical Education (P.E.) K-12**. All students in grades K-12, including students with disabilities, special health-care needs, and in alternative educational settings, will be encouraged to participate in physical education where available. Students will spend at least 50 percent of physical education class time participating in moderate to vigorous physical activity.

**Integrating Physical Activity into the Classroom Setting**. For students to receive the nationally recommended amount of daily physical activity (i.e., at least 60 minutes per day) and for students to fully embrace regular physical activity as a personal behavior, students need opportunities for physical activity beyond physical education class. Toward that end:

- Classroom health education will complement physical education be reinforcing
  the knowledge and self-management skills needed to maintain a physically-active
  lifestyle and to reduce time spent on sedentary activities, such as watching
  television;
- Opportunities for physical activity will be incorporated into other subject lessons; and
- Classroom teachers will provide short physical activity breaks between lessons or classes, as appropriate

**Daily Recess.** All elementary school students will have at least 20 minutes a day of supervised recess, preferably outdoors, during which schools should encourage moderate to vigorous physical activity verbally and through the provision of space and equipment.

Schools should discourage extended periods (i.e., periods of two or more hours) of inactivity. When activities, such as mandatory school-wide testing, make it necessary for students to remain indoors for long periods of time, schools should give students periodic breaks during which they are encouraged to stand and be moderately active.

**Physical Activity and Punishment**. Teachers and other school and community personnel will not use physical activity (e.g., running laps, push ups) as punishment.

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## **LEGAL REFERENCE:**

Idaho Code Sections 33-512

ADOPTED: 5/8/06

AMENDED:

SECTION 500: INSTRUCTIONAL