



National Association for
Sport and Physical Education

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

NASPE Sets the Standard

POSITION STATEMENT

Code of Conduct for P-12 Physical Education Teachers

Statement of Purpose

It is the position of the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE) that each physical education professional is responsible for achieving and maintaining competency of knowledge and integrity of practice as demonstrated through fair, honest and respectful behaviors toward students, colleagues, the profession and society.

The following code of conduct speaks to the core values of the profession, including nurturing students' development, collaborating with others to expand physical activity opportunities for all members of the school community, showing dedication to personal growth and to the profession, and exhibiting personal and professional integrity. Each physical education professional is expected to uphold this code of conduct.

Principle I: Physical education professionals are educators who nurture each student's cognitive, physical, emotional and social development.

Physical education professionals:

- 1.1 Create and maintain a physically and emotionally safe learning environment for all students.
- 1.2 Respect each individual's dignity and worth, and help students value their own identities and appreciate differences in others.
- 1.3 Foster growth in all students by integrating intellectual, physical, emotional and social learning.
- 1.4 Provide a supportive environment for positive social interaction and group membership.
- 1.5 Present the curriculum using research-based materials from a variety of sources.
- 1.6 Use a variety of appropriate instruction strategies that are culturally relevant and address all learning styles and ability levels.
- 1.7 Assist students in becoming active, inquisitive and perceptive individuals who reflect upon and monitor their own learning.

Principle II: Physical education professionals collaborate with school staff, parents and the community to provide a wide variety of physical activity opportunities for the entire school community.

Physical education professionals:

- 2.1 Serve as the physical activity expert within the school by contributing their expertise to school and community projects/activities.
- 2.2 Coordinate the school's comprehensive physical activity program to maximize students' understanding, application and practice of the knowledge and skills learned in physical education.
- 2.3 Engage school staff and parents in roles that help and support implementation of a comprehensive school physical activity program.
- 2.4 Engage and partner with community members and agencies to share resources, thereby building collaborative services in support of all students.
- 2.5 Collaborate with school staff in support of the school-wide curriculum.
- 2.6 Identify opportunities to incorporate physical education and physical activity into school-wide initiatives, themes and events.

Principle III: Physical education professionals commit themselves to lifelong learning and contributing to the profession.

Physical education professionals:

- 3.1 Maintain membership in a professional association.
- 3.2 Engage in a variety of professional-development activities, such as research projects, conferences, presentations, and reading and contributing to professional publications.
- 3.3 Serve as a mentor, providing guidance and support to new educators.
- 3.4 Encourage and support their colleagues in their efforts to set and attain high standards for student achievement.
- 3.5 Use reflection as a means of self-assessment to continually improve quality of instruction and teaching practice.
- 3.6 Seek continually to extend the knowledge base and best practices within physical education.

Principle IV: Physical education professionals demonstrate personal and professional integrity in all environments and situations.

Physical education professionals:

- 4.1 Serve as role models by participating regularly in health-enhancing physical activity.
- 4.2 Demonstrate trustworthiness by abiding by the laws of confidentiality concerning the affairs of all students and colleagues.
- 4.3 Demonstrate integrity by refusing to accept gifts or favors that could influence actions or decisions and could be considered unethical or illegal professional behavior.
- 4.4 Exercise proper judgment in all relationships, so that actions are always characterized by respect and concern for others.
- 4.5 Dress in attire that is appropriate for a physical activity environment, while maintaining a high level of professionalism and is in agreement with the school's dress code.
- 4.6 Arrive and depart school in accordance with the teaching contract, allowing adequate time to prepare for instruction and other administrative and professional responsibilities.
- 4.7 Communicate effectively with others orally and in writing.

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