

School Health Activity Reporting

Current Law: RCW 28A.655

Since the 1994-95 school year, each Washington school has been required to publish an annual school performance report. The report is sent to each parent and is made available to the community, often on the school's website.

The performance report includes:

- Mission statement of the school and school district
- Enrollment statistics and demographics
- Expenditures per student
- Summary of student test scores
- Annual budget
- Attendance, graduation and dropout rates
- Condition of school buildings
- Learning improvement plans
- An invitation to parents and citizens to participate in school activities

Proposed Changes

It is widely known that improving student health leads to greater academic achievement, and that higher educational attainment leads to lifelong health. Because both academic achievement and health status in Washington vary significantly by income, gender, race and ethnicity, on-time high school graduation rates are half of the state average in some groups. Great promise lies in student health improvement and social-emotional learning in school-based efforts that coordinate school health personnel and program with community resources.

We propose the following addition to the performance report requirements:

- Efforts to coordinate health and social support services, curricula and school building policies and practices to remove non-academic barriers to student learning

We propose that by June 30, 2011, the model report form be amended to include information already collected by schools regarding their implementation of health, social and emotional learning requirements and goals, including physical education requirements, school-based health educational assessments, nutrition policies and practices, counseling services, health services, transportation policies, public use of school for physical activities, and membership information for any school health committee.

Organizations Supporting Proposed Changes

Access to Healthy Food Coalition, American Academy of Pediatrics—WA Chapter, American Diabetes Association, American Heart Association, Bicycle Alliance, Camp Fire USA Central Puget Sound Council, Cascade Bicycle Club Education Foundation, Comprehensive Health Education Foundation (CHEF), Children's Alliance, Community Choices of Clark County, Feet First, Group Health Cooperative, Mary Bridge Children's Hospital and Health Center, Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition, Odessa Brown Children's Clinic, Public Health Seattle and King County, Rev It Up! Yakima County Coordinator, Seattle Children's, Skagit County Healthy Communities Project, Transportation Choices, Tree Swing, WA Association of Community and Migrant Health Centers, WA Dental Service Foundation, WA Health Foundation, WA Recreation and Park Association, WA School Nutrition Association, WA State Association of Local Public Health Officers, WA State Dairy Council, WA State PTA, WA State Public Health Association, YMCA—Gig Harbor

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