

Tom Horne
Superintendent

N·E·W·S

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

For more information contact Amy Rezzonico, Press Secretary (602) 542-5072

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Friday, July 17, 2009

ARIZONA SCHOOLS CHIEF TOM HORNE ANNOUNCES DRAFT HEALTH EDUCATION AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION STANDARDS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

PHOENIX (Friday, July 17, 2009) – Arizona Schools Chief Tom Horne today announced that the revised Health Education and Physical Education Standards are available for Public Comment. In response to field requests and to keep up with other academic area revisions, the Arizona Department of Education began the revision process as a part of the ADE Coordinated School Health approach.

“These standards haven’t been revised since 1997,” said Horne. “The revisions will improve health education and physical education in the state of Arizona. Studies show students who are healthy physically perform better academically. I value the public’s input in this process.”

Statewide committees of 18 health education professionals and 13 physical education specialists have been involved simultaneously in the development of the updated Health Education and Physical Education Standards. These diverse committees are comprised of representatives from urban areas (e.g. Phoenix Metropolitan area) and rural areas (e.g. Navajo Nation), small and large districts, and charter schools. The committees include participants from higher education, district leadership, and classroom teachers (elementary, middle, and high school).

The revision committee considers these drafts to be a fair, rigorous, and cohesive sequence of study. Students will have the opportunity to develop both the skills and content knowledge necessary to be lifelong healthy consumers.

- ❑ The DRAFT Health Education and Physical Education Standards Articulated by Grade Span are posted on the ADE website (www.ade.az.gov), accompanied by a feedback survey for public comment.
- ❑ The DRAFT Health Education and Physical Education Standards Articulated by Grade Span have been sent to external experts for feedback focusing on the document’s comprehensiveness, sequencing, and coherence.

- Six (6) Public Forums will be held across the state during the month of August 2009.
 - Arizona Department of Education – August 6 (5-7 p.m.) – Central Building - 2005 N. Central, Conference Room 100, Phoenix, AZ 85004
 - Window Rock High School – August 10 (5-7 p.m.) – Window Rock Auditorium - N. Route #12, Fort Defiance, AZ 86504
 - Coconino County Regional Accommodation School District – August 11 (5-7 p.m.) - Ponderosa High School (Commons Area), 2384 N. Steves Blvd., Flagstaff, AZ 86004
 - Arizona Department of Education – August 24 (5-7 p.m.) – Central Building – 2005 N. Central, Phoenix, AZ 85004
 - State Government Complex – August 25 (5-7 p.m.) – 400 W. Congress (North Building Room 158), Tucson, AZ 85701
 - Yuma School District One – August 26 (5-7 p.m.) – 450 W. Sixth St (Board Room), Yuma, AZ 85364

###