

New State Health and Physical Education Learning Standards

You may have read or heard about the new Health and Physical Education Learning Standards that came out from OSPI over the summer. One area of concern that we have been hearing about are the new standards dealing with “self-identity”.

State law requires that we teach certain subjects that come under the auspice of Health and Physical Education. Those required teachings are: HIV and STD prevention, mental health and suicide prevention, learning how to perform CPR and also the use of AED’s (automated external defibrillators). Topics outside of these areas are optional and not required to be taught.

As a school district, one of our responsibilities is to understand the culture of our community and having a pretty good grasp of what is acceptable and what is not. As educators, we have a responsibility to teach important facts and information that will be valuable to our students as they move through our system and graduate from Onalaska High School, career and/or college ready.

We will continue to teach what is required by state law and remain sensitive to our school and community values when choosing other topics to include in the curriculum.

There are three new areas that we will be including in our health and physical education curriculum: developing strategies for resolving conflicts; analyzing potential dangers of sharing personal information through electronic media; and creating a balanced daily food plan.

Please feel free to contact me at the District Office if you have questions.

Jeff Davis
Superintendent