Students in grades one (1) through twelve (12) shall be required to participate in physical education courses unless they are excused by the principal of their attendance center.

## **Student Health and Religious Beliefs**

Students may be excused from physical education courses if the student presents a written statement from a doctor stating that such activities could be injurious to the health of the student or the student has been exempted because of a conflict with the student's religious beliefs. Parents of students requesting such exemption should file a written request that shall include the basis for the request (e.g. verified health concerns and/or a religious conflict) and a proposed alternative activity or study acceptable to the superintendent. However, the superintendent and/or designee shall have the final authority to determine the alternate activity or study.

## Additional Reasons to be Excused from Physical Education

A student shall be excused from the physical education requirement by the principal if the parent or guardian of the student requests in writing that the student be excused from the physical education requirement for one of these reasons:

- The student is enrolled in academic courses not otherwise available.
- An activity that is sponsored by the school, in which the student is enrolled, which
  requires at least as much physical activity per week as one-eighth unit of physical
  education.
- The student is participating in the Legislative Page Program at the state capitol for a regular session of the general assembly.
- The student is enrolled in a junior reserve officer training corps.
- A student who is enrolled in a work-based learning program.
- A student who is in an educational program authorized by the school, which requires the student to leave the school premises for specified periods of time during the school day.

Approved: 4/24/89

Reviewed and Amended: 4/13/93, 10/26/99; 09/25/06; 12/22/08; 2/24/14; 2/26/18; 1/24/22;

2/26/24