



PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Dear Principal:

Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) and the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) believe it is important to inform all schools across Pennsylvania with their position pertaining to *No Waivers for Health and Physical Education classes*.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education's Health and Physical Education website states the following: "Neither the Pennsylvania School Code nor the State Board of Education allows for waivers for students from the requirements of health and physical education due to participation in a physical activity, such as interscholastic sports, band or ROTC. Physical activity is only one component of physical education and physical activity does not meet all of the requirements and standards of physical education." For additional information, please visit www.education.pa.gov, and search Physical Education.

Also, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Education Codes and Regulations found under Chapter 4 on Health and Physical Education, "A person holding a valid and active Pennsylvania teaching certificate in the area of Health and Physical Education K-12 is qualified to teach all health and physical education courses in grades K-12."

In October of 2016, the PIAA Board of Directors unanimously supported the initiative from the Pennsylvania State Association for Physical Education Recreation and Dance (PSAHPERD) to support *No Waivers for Health and Physical Education classes*. PIAA is committed to the educational values of a quality health and physical education program and for all students to participate in these programs.

All three groups are requesting school administrations and their local school boards become familiar with the scholarly research on the health and academic benefits of student participation in a quality physical education program. Together all of us can make a difference in the lives of our students by ensuring that all students are provided with high quality and effective Health and Physical Education program.

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation. It is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Lombardi

Dr. Robert A. Lombardi
Executive Director

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