



April 7, 2016

### **Highlights of changes to the Health Enhancement Standards**

The proposed 2015 Montana Health Enhancement Standards reflect changes that have occurred during the past 16 years in educational opportunities that address physical, mental, and social health.

- The 2015 revision includes separate standards for health education and physical education. By providing both health education and physical education standards, a health enhancement teacher and an elementary educator without a health enhancement endorsement will have greater guidance as to what content areas are to be taught as part of a school's health enhancement program.
- The Montana Health Enhancement standards of 1999 included seven content standards with benchmarks at grades 4, 8, and 12 as well as performance standards at those three levels. The proposed Montana Health Enhancement standards have eight health education standards and five physical education standards, with performance indicators at grade level for K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and grade bands for grades 6-8, and 9-12.
- Current health trends show the need to address topics such as mental health; respectful relationships; chronic diseases such as diabetes and asthma; substance use; environmental factors that affect health, wellness, or physical activity levels; and bullying, including cyberbullying.
- New technologies allow physical education students to monitor pulse rates, track calories burned and steps walked, and use innovative software programs to develop fitness plans that provide feedback regarding physical activity and nutritional intake. The revised standards address online access to valid health information.

The proposed Montana Health Enhancement Standards, consisting of both health education and physical education standards, ensure that Montana schools provide students with the best and most up-to-date practices in their health enhancement classes.

- To view [Current Health Enhancement Standards](http://opi.mt.gov/PDF/Standards/ContStds-Hlth.pdf), go to <http://opi.mt.gov/PDF/Standards/ContStds-Hlth.pdf>.
- To view [Proposed Health Enhancement Standards](http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/CSI/Rules/16FebNRM_RevisionsHPE.pdf), go to [http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/CSI/Rules/16FebNRM\\_RevisionsHPE.pdf](http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/CSI/Rules/16FebNRM_RevisionsHPE.pdf).

### **Highlights of changes to the Art Standards**

The proposed Montana Arts Content Standards address the concept of Artistic Literacy – the ability of students to create art, perform and present art, respond or critique art, and connect art to their lives and the world around them.

- The current Montana Arts standards, adopted in 1999, include six content standards with benchmarks at grades 4, 8, and 12 as well as performance standards at those three grade levels. The proposed Arts standards include eleven standards for each discipline (Dance, Media, Arts, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts) by grade level in K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and by grade band for grades 6-8, and 9-12.
- The proposed standards add the discipline of Media Arts.

The proposed standards do not require that all schools offer courses in every discipline. The Arts program delivery standards (ARM 10.55.1201) are not changing. Schools will continue to incorporate visual arts, performing arts and provide instruction that includes history of the arts, criticism, production, performance and aesthetics.

- To view the [Current Art Standards](http://opi.mt.gov/PDF/standards/ContStd-Arts.pdf), go to <http://opi.mt.gov/PDF/standards/ContStd-Arts.pdf>.
- To view the [Proposed Art Standards](http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/CSI/Rules/16FebNRM_RevisionsArt.pdf), go to [http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/CSI/Rules/16FebNRM\\_RevisionsArt.pdf](http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/CSI/Rules/16FebNRM_RevisionsArt.pdf)