March 18, 2004

TO: Principals

FROM: Elsie C. Leak, Curriculum and School Reform Services
       June S. Atkinson, Curriculum and Instruction Division
       Marvin R. Pittman, School Reform Services
       Paula H. Collins, NC Healthy Schools

RE: Appendix in School Improvement Plans to Include Healthy Active Children

In January of 2003, the State Board of Education passed HSP-S-000, Healthy Active Children. A copy of this policy is included in the appendices of this document. The policy may also be accessed online at http://www.ncpublicschools.org/state_board/. For reporting purposes, each school improvement plan shall describe how the school is meeting the Healthy Active Children policy. Since your school improvement plans are complete for the 2003-2004 school year, the attached form will have to be completed and sent to the Central Office and added into your plans. The Central Office will summarize the district school improvement plans and send to the Department of Public Instruction by July 15, 2004. This plan will become a permanent section in the School Improvement Plans beginning in the 2004-2005 school year. School districts will continue to send progress reports to the Department of Public Instruction through the 2006-2007 school year.

HSP-S-000 went in effect immediately upon approval of the State Board of Education (January 9, 2003) but does allow time for implementation through the 2006-07 school year. School action plan summaries need to be submitted to Dr. Elsie Leak by July 15, 2004 by the LEA. Progress reports are due to the Department of Public Instruction by July 15th of 2005 and 2006. Beginning with the 2006-07 school year, school improvement plans will include health concerns related to students as part of their plans and will no longer be submitted to the Department of Public Instruction.

In order for this policy to be fully implemented by the 2006-07 school year, LEAs should:

- establish and maintain School Health Advisory Councils to represent the eight components of a coordinated school health program. Additional information about the school health councils can be found at www.nchealthyschools.org.
- submit summary reports to Raleigh.

In order for this policy to be fully implemented by the 2006-07 school year, schools should:

- conduct a needs assessment on health services and programs. This may be the initial action plan. Possible assessments may be located at www.nchealthyschools.org or www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dash/SHI/index.htm, the School Health Index.
• provide an action plan to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction by July 15, 2004.
• provide progress reports by July 15, 2005 and 2006.
• submit an annual report that includes information on the number of minutes provides for children in physical education and in physical activity yearly.

The attached forms have been added to the NCDPI web site in both Word and PDF for your use. You can access the forms at http://www.ncpublicschools.org/schoolimprovement.

Should you have further questions, please feel free to contact the following:

1. for physical education, recess and physical activity, contact Kymm Ballard at 919.807.3858 or kballard@dpi.state.nc.us;
2. for Coordinated School Health Programs and School Health Advisory Councils, contact Paula Collins at 919.807.3859 or pcollins@dpi.state.nc.us; and
3. for reporting forms, contact Jackie Colbert at 919.807.3916 or jcolbert@dpi.state.nc.us.

ECL/JSA/MRP/PHC/kb

Attachments

c: Superintendents
  Healthful Living Coordinators
  Health Advisory Council Leaders