

Adapted Physical Education Needs Your Help!

Adapted Physical Education (APE) teachers across the state are working together to get an **Adapted Physical Education Endorsement**. This endorsement would ensure your student is receiving high quality physical education programming by a teacher who is specifically trained to provide Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) and evaluation in the area of Adapted PE.

Currently:

- Washington State **DOES NOT** recognize the Adapted Physical Education endorsement
 - Therefore, teachers can not “Evaluate, Design or Monitor” students who need APE services
 - Therefore, there are not appropriate or individualized programming services being implemented, as general physical education teachers lack the training and knowledge to provide SDI
 - Therefore, there are not appropriate inclusion practices
 - Therefore, there are significant safety concerns for general/special education students and staff
 - Therefore, there is not access to appropriate health and fitness instruction, which impacts our student’s ability to lead healthy active lifestyles
- Washington State **DOES NOT** offer any higher education certificates or endorsements for teachers to gain this specialized training
- STATE OF PLAY has gathered data our youth with disabilities regarding their physical activity and physical education experience. This data shows major deficits, and a lack of quality programming, which has a significant impact on a student’s gross motor, social, emotional and intellectual development

What we are asking for:

- We have higher education universities willing to support the endorsement, we need further support to convince the Professional Education Standards Board (PESB) and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to take steps towards the Adapted Physical Education endorsement in our state. *OSPI is saying that they have not heard from stakeholders (students, families, staff) that there is a need for this endorsement*
- **WE NEED parents, students, and staff to make their voices heard!** Let OSPI and PESB know our students with disabilities’ health and fitness is a priority. We need access to quality physical education programming that meets the individualized needs of our students. We need professionals to be trained specifically in the area of Adapted Physical education to be able to practice and provide appropriate adapted PE services in our State

Here are the names and emails of people who need to hear your voice!

Tania May, M.Ed.

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Director of Special Education

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

Professional Educator Standards Board

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The Washington State Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)

is established through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to advise the State Superintendent on matters pertaining to the provision of special education and related services

SEAC@k12.wa.us

Attached is a letter from SHAPE Washington and quotes that came out of the State of PLAY research.

Please let me know if you have any questions or request further information,

Thank you!