



National Association for Sport and Physical Education

*an association of the American Alliance for Health,
Physical Education, Recreation and Dance*

NASPE Sets the Standard

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MAINTAIN CURRENT FUNDING STRUCTURE FOR CDC'S DIVISION OF ADOLESCENT & SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAMS

The Senate Appropriations Committee has proposed consolidating several CDC chronic line item programs within the jurisdiction of the Department of Health and Human Services into one Chronic Disease Initiative block grant for FY2011. Included in this proposed revision is CDC's Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH).

BACKGROUND

- CDC DASH serves as the lead within HHS for school health issues and works across the agency and in partnership with other federal, state and local agencies, and national partners, to improve the health of young people through school-based activities.
- School health programs supported by DASH include *physical education and physical activity, nutrition, tobacco use*, health risk behaviors such as *teen pregnancy and HIV, alcohol and other drug abuse, asthma* and *mental health*.
- In FY2010, DASH program activities provided funding and technical support to 50 state education agencies (EAs), 22 local EAs, 6 territorial EAs and 3 tribal governments.
- DASH programs are unique because they contribute to both student health *and* academic success. DASH funding provides a catalyst for collaboration between state education and health agencies. The funding assists states to *improve the health of children and youth and remove barriers to students' academic success* by improving the high quality and coordination of efforts of school-level programs.
- DASH is unique among CDC divisions in that is *primary partners are education agencies* and national education organizations, enabling it to facilitate work across the CDC in the school setting.
- The DASH model has a unique advantage in fighting obesity because it links the state departments of education and health, thereby strategically planning for statewide impact, applying state-of-the-art obesity prevention policies and programs, effectively leveraging resources, and engaging partners.

Why Maintaining DASH-Programmatic Funding is Critical to Health & Academic Success

- CDC's DASH has had distinctive success in breaking down silos by using public health dollars to fund state Departments of Education and building essential working partnerships which would likely be lost in a formula-based block grant.
- Dismantling CDC DASH programmatic funds and infrastructure could inadvertently hurt academic achievement, especially for disadvantaged and low-income youth and communities.
- The DASH model provides a mechanism for addressing all health promotion activities broadly, including the delivery of crisis response information for emerging health crises, such as H1N1.