

Appropriate Grading in Physical Education: What story are we telling?

**33rd Northwest Conference on Children's Physical Education
Conestoga Middle School, Beaverton, Oregon
February 23, 2013**

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Grading in physical education is an important component of the assessment process. Many teachers struggle with choosing appropriate criteria for determining grades for a student and parent feedback. This session will focus on selecting appropriate criteria for grading purposes and will outline various types of grading procedures appropriate for all levels of physical education.

Effective Grading in Physical Education

- **The grading process is actually non representative of student learning in physical education because:**
 - **students rarely produce written records of work**
 - **grading in physical education is usually a result of components of compliance**
 - **physical components of assessment viewed as unfair to the less "talented"**
 - **high student numbers, administrative support, & faculty commitment**

Effective Grading in Physical Education

- **Challenges in Grading Practices**
 - **Validity and reliability**
 - **Dependence on other students**
 - **Student skill levels and prior experience**

Effective Grading in Physical Education

- **Grades should reflect the degree to which a student has achieved learning objectives not:**
 - **Attendance and dressing out**
 - **Effort**
 - **Attitude and behavior**
 - **Improvement**
 - **Curved performance**

What to Grade?

- **Identify appropriate learning outcomes for students based on lesson or unit.**
- **Prepare tools to assess students performance of these outcomes over several components of the lesson**
- **Blend assessment into instructional processes.**
- **Continually assess throughout the unit of instruction.**

Choosing Appropriate Objectives

- **Allow the literature to be your guide (National Standards, State Frameworks, Model Content Standards, District Guidelines, etc.)**
- **Use your professional judgment and experiences with best practices**
- **Ensure that your objectives are custom built for your student diversity**
- **Educate the whole student (cognitive, affective, and psychomotor)**

Types of Grading

- **Understand the strengths and weaknesses of:**
 - **Straight point grading**
 - **Weighted grading**
 - **Curved grading**

Effective Grading in Physical Education

- **Hints & Suggestions**
 - **Achievement**
 - **Set high Standards**
 - **Set bar at appropriate level of achievement**
 - **View through myriad of lenses**
 - **Fairness**
 - **Show the assessment plan early**
 - **Keep the grading system balanced**
 - **Use formative assessments for determining grades**