

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Millburn Public Schools

INFORMATION ITEM

May 2, 2011

To: Board of Education Members

From: Ellen E. Mauer, PhD

Subject: Policy 7:260-Exemption from Physical Activity

This policy is revised to update all legal and cross-references. The new policy adds language that allows further exemption based on religious reasons and now prohibits parents from exempting students from these activities for reasons other than medical or religious. A medical practitioner as defined by the Medical Practice Act must be the one doing the exemption.

We can use this as our first reading and place this on the consent agenda for next time.

## Students

### Exemption from Physical Activity <sup>1</sup>

In order to be excused from participation in physical education, a student must present an appropriate excuse from his or her parent/guardian or from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act. <sup>2</sup> The excuse may be based on medical or religious prohibitions. State law prohibits a school board from honoring parental excuses based upon a student's participation in athletic training, activities, or competitions conducted outside the auspices of the School District. <sup>3</sup>

Special activities in physical education will be provided for a student whose physical or emotional condition, as determined by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act, prevents his or her participation in the physical education course. <sup>4</sup>

LEGAL REF.:        105 ILCS 5/27-6.  
                          225 ILCS 60/, Medical Practice Act.  
                          23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(p).

CROSS REF.:        6:60 (Curriculum Content), 6:310 (Credit for Alternative Courses and Programs,  
                          and Course Substitutions)

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**The footnotes are not intended to be part of the adopted policy; they should be removed before the policy is adopted.**

<sup>1</sup> An ISBE rule requires boards to have a policy defining the types of parental excuses that will be accepted in order for a student to be exempted from P.E. (23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(p). State or federal law controls this policy's content.

<sup>2</sup> Medical Practice Act is found in 225 ILCS 60/.

<sup>3</sup> 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(p).

<sup>4</sup> Required by 105 ILCS 5/27-6 and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420(p).