

Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP) Grant

Grant Overview: The Carol M. White Physical Education Program provides grants to LEAs and community-based organizations (CBOs) to initiate, expand, or enhance physical education programs, including after-school programs, for students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Grant recipients must implement programs that help students make progress toward meeting state standards. Funds may be used to provide equipment and support to enable students to participate actively in physical education activities. Funds also may support professional development opportunities for staff.

The district physical education staff has met to discuss the PEP Grant and develop a potential project for funding. The result was a program to establish and equip fitness and wellness centers across the district where students could engage in individualized fitness programs centered on cardiovascular, strength, and flexibility. The proposal makes an investment in a variety of fitness evaluation tools, such as Polar and Tri-fit, and allows for professional development for instructors and attendance to Cooper Institute conferences.

The program also proposed partnering with community organizations and agencies to provide students with activities based on an “adventure model”, while having guest speakers come to classes to deliver curriculum-appropriate presentations.

Amount of Award: Up to \$500,000 over a 3-year period. Match required: 10% of Year 1 budget, 25% of Year 2 budget, 25% of Year 3 budget.

Due Date/Notification of Award: Applications are due on March 6, 2009. Notification of award should be in July 2009.

Alternatives if not Awarded: If not funded, the district could consider pursuing funding for aspects of the project through sources such as the Highmark Healthy High 5 Challenge Grant.

WCSD Resources Required: Either a cash or in-kind match in each year. Facilities in each building for any proposed equipment. Maintenance of any purchased equipment past the grant lifespan.

Administrative Recommendation: The recommendation is to apply for funding. Administration is currently reviewing how health, safety, and physical education impact childhood obesity, staff and student wellness, academic performance, etc. The funding provides an opportunity to address these issues, as well as purchase equipment that might not be available through normal WCSD budget requests.