

National Health Education Standards Educator Kit

health. moves. minds.

About SHAPE America

SHAPE America – Society of Health and Physical Educators serves as the voice for 200,000+ health and physical education professionals across the United States. The organization's community includes a diverse membership of health and physical educators, as well as advocates, supporters, and 50+ state affiliate organizations.

SHAPE America's new National Physical Education Standards and National Health Education Standards — released in 2024 after a multi-year revision process — provide a comprehensive framework for educators to deliver high-quality instruction and make a positive difference in the health and well-being of every student.

For more information, visit shapeamerica.org/standards.

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National Health Education Standards Revision Timeline



Standards are an important part of curriculum development. This timeline is a brief overview of the revision process for the 2024 SHAPE America National Health Education Standards.

Sept. 2021

LAUNCH OF REVISION TASK FORCE

The National Health Education Standards Task Force was composed of a diverse group of stakeholders from K-12, higher education, and national health education organizations.

A PHILOSPHICAL FOUNDATION

Task force members spent time developing a strong philosophical foundation for the standards, reviewing initial feedback (collected through surveys and a town hall) and current research, investigating best practices, and determining the needs of the field.



March 2023

FIRST DRAFT OF NATIONAL HE STANDARDS

After spending time building consensus, the task force revised the standards, rationale, and performance indicators before releasing a first draft for public review and comment.

SYNTHESIZING FEEDBACK

Task force members synthesized all the feedback from convention sessions, a town hall, and the public review and comment survey, then worked to revise the standards, rationale, and performance indicators based on the feedback.



National Health Education Standards Revision Timeline (continued)



Sept. 2023

SECOND DRAFT OF NATIONAL HE STANDARDS

After further review and revisions, the task force presented a second draft, which was widely disseminated during the second round of public review and comment.

ANALYZING ADDITIONAL FEEDBACK

Task force members analyzed the comments from the second round of public review and comment to determine final revisions to the standards, rationale, and performance indicators.



Dec. 2023

FINAL DRAFT OF NATIONAL HE STANDARDS

The task force finalized the standards, rationale, and performance indicators based on feedback from the final round of public review and comment.

March 2024

RELEASE OF THE 2024 SHAPE AMERICA NATIONAL HEALTH EDUCATION STANDARDS



The new National Health Education Standards were released at the 2024 SHAPE America National Convention & Expo in Cleveland.

National Health Education Standards Why are they important?



SHAPE America's National Health Education Standards serve as an important framework to ensure consistency and quality in school health education. This framework (as with national standards of other content areas) is used by teachers, administrators, and policy makers in designing or selecting curricula, allocating instructional resources, and assessing student achievement and progress.

The visual below shows the relationship between the National Health Education Standards, a school district's (or school's) health education curriculum, instruction, and student engagement.



National Health Education Standards

- Broad, overarching goals displaying what a student should know, understand, and be able to do over a given time period
- Includes: rationale, performance indicators (organized by grade span)



Curriculum

- An organized and sequenced plan of standardsbased instructional units that enhance student learning
- Consider local data in prioritizing the most important functional health information topics based on local priorities and state and local laws



Instruction

- Learning experiences designed to meet the needs of students
- Includes: instructional strategies, unit plans, lesson plans, assessment



Student Engagement

- Learning experiences created through the lens of the student as the owner of their learning
- Includes: opportunities for students to participate in multiple modalities of engagement to internalize deeper learning



National Health Education Standards Evolution & Changes



SHAPE America is a proud member of the coalition that developed the National Health Education Standards (NHES), which were released in 1995 and revised in Spring 2007. In 2020, SHAPE America obtained the copyright to the National Health Education Standards and in 2021, began the multi-year standards revision process. The chart below provides an overview of how these national standards have evolved from the second edition in 2007 to the most current version — the 2024 SHAPE America National Health Education Standards.

2007 National Health Education Standards

Students will ...

Standard 1: Comprehend concepts related to health promotion and disease prevention to enhance health.

Standard 2: Analyze the influence of family, peers, culture, media, technology, and other factors on health behaviors.

Standard 3: Demonstrate the ability to access valid information, products, and services to enhance health.

Standard 4: Demonstrate the ability to use interpersonal communication skills to enhance health and avoid or reduce health risks.

Standard 5: Demonstrate the ability to use decision-making skills to enhance health.

Standard 6: Demonstrate the ability to use goal-setting skills to enhance health.

Standard 7: Demonstrate the ability to practice health-enhancing behaviors and avoid or reduce health risks.

Standard 8: Demonstrate the ability to advocate for personal, family, and community health.

2024 SHAPE America National Health Education Standards

Students will be able to ...

Standard 1: Use functional health information to support health and well-being.

Standard 2: Analyze influences that affect health and well-being.

Standard 3: Access valid and reliable resources to support health and well-being.

Standard 4: Use interpersonal communication skills to support health and well-being.

Standard 5: Use a decision-making process to support personal and community health and well-being.

Standard 6: Use a goal-setting process to support health and well-being.

Standard 7: Demonstrate practices and behaviors to support health and well-being.

Standard 8: Advocate to promote health and well-being for self and others.

Continued on next page ...

National Health Education Standards Evolution & Changes (continued)



What Has Changed in the New National HE Standards

During the multi-year revision process, the National Health Education Standards Task Force reviewed current research, investigated best practices, and gathered feedback from the field through several rounds of public review and comment. This collective process resulted in several changes.

The new standards provide an exciting shift from a focus on health behaviors to a focus on overall health and well-being that capitalizes on the strengths and resources within a student, their family, school, and community.

At the core of the new standards is an emphasis on the importance of preparing students with the skills and functional health information they need to take meaningful steps to support their health and well-being throughout their lifetime — and to understand health as it relates to the world around them.

Health or health behaviors

Illustrates a greater focus on mental health along with physical health

Enhance personal health

Support health and wellbeing of self and others

Focus not only on the individual but also those surrounding them

Influences spelled out in performance indicators

Influences not spelled out

Introducing new concepts:

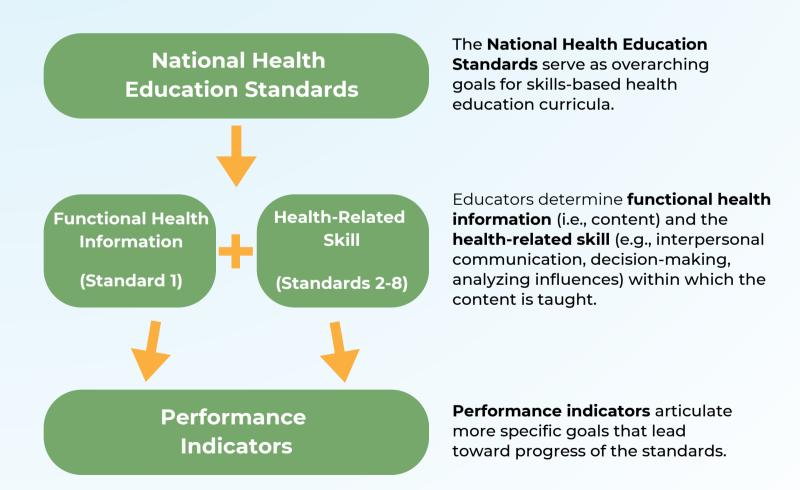
Rather than include a long list of influences, teachers and students have flexibility to substitute in those that are most meaningful

- Strengths and assets
- Health literacy
- Managing chronic conditions
- Boundaries and consent
- Misinformation and disinformation
- Equity
- Communicating with others with different perspectives and values





SHAPE America's National Health Education Standards serve as an important framework to ensure consistency and quality in skills-based health education programs. The visual below shows how the National Health Education Standards and performance indicators are used to start the framework for a skills-based health curriculum.





SHAPE America National Health Education Standards

SHAPE America's National Health Education Standards define what a student should know and be able to do as result of a highly effective health education program. The standards serve as an important framework to address the holistic development of students and ensure consistency and quality in health education programs nationwide. States and local school districts across the country use the National Health Education Standards to develop or revise existing standards, frameworks and curricula.

Standard 1: Use functional health information to support health and well-being of self and others.

Rationale:

The acquisition and application of functional health information provides a foundation for promoting health and well-being. This standard includes essential concepts based on established theories and models of health behavior and health promotion. It focuses not only on risk factors, but also on protective factors that can support health and wellness. Concepts reflected in this standard include health literacy, health promotion, health equity, social determinants of health, well-being, and health outcomes within individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental contexts. Functional information can be applied to health-related skills, such as analyzing influences, accessing resources, interpersonal communication, decision-making, goal setting, engaging in health practices and behaviors, and advocacy.

Performance Indicators by Grade Span:	
Grades PreK-2	1.2.1 Identify strengths and assets that support health and well-being. 1.2.2 Identify dimensions of wellness. 1.2.3 Identify ways to prevent or reduce risks for illnesses and injuries. 1.2.4 Describe health-promoting behaviors. 1.2.5 Explain the importance of health and well-being. 1.2.6 Identify how the environment affects personal and community health. 1.2.7 Explain when it is important to seek health care.
Grades 3-5	 1.5.1 Explain how to build upon strengths and assets to support health and well-being. 1.5.2 Describe health-promoting behaviors for the dimensions of wellness. 1.5.3 Explain ways to prevent or reduce risks for illnesses and injuries. 1.5.4 Explain ways to engage in health-promoting behaviors, including how to manage health conditions. 1.5.5 Examine how health literacy supports health and well-being. 1.5.6 Examine how the environment affects personal and community health. 1.5.7 Explain when and why it is important to seek health care.
Grades 6-8	1.8.1 Analyze ways to build upon strengths and assets to support individual and collective health and well-being. 1.8.2 Analyze how practices and behaviors support a variety of dimensions of wellness.



SHAPE America National Health Education Standards

	 1.8.3 Analyze behaviors that reduce or prevent illnesses and injuries. 1.8.4 Analyze practices and behaviors that support health and well-being, including how to manage health conditions. 1.8.5 Analyze connections between health literacy and health outcomes. 1.8.6 Analyze how individual, interpersonal, community, and environmental factors impact health and well-being. 1.8.7 Explain how health care promotes personal health.
Grades 9-12	 1.12.1 Apply ways to build upon strengths and assets to support individual and collective health and well-being. 1.12.2 Analyze the relationships between various dimensions of wellness as related to health outcomes. 1.12.3 Evaluate behaviors that reduce or prevent illnesses and injuries. 1.12.4 Evaluate practices and behaviors that support health and well-being, including how to manage health conditions. 1.12.5 Examine connections between individual health literacy, organizational health literacy, and health outcomes. 1.12.6 Analyze how individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental factors are interrelated and impact health outcomes. 1.12.7 Analyze the benefits of and barriers to practicing a variety of health behaviors. 1.12.8 Examine how self-efficacy, perceived susceptibility, and perceived severity affect health behaviors. 1.12.9 Analyze the relationship between access to health care and overall health and wellbeing.



Standard 2: Analyze influences that affect health and well-being of self and others.

Rationale: Health and well-being are affected by many, diverse influences within individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental contexts. This standard focuses on identifying and evaluating internal and external factors influencing health practices and behaviors. Influences on health and well-being may include but are not limited to: personal values and beliefs, perceived and social norms, family, peers, schools, communities, culture, media and technology, policies, and the environment. This standard recognizes that the factors affecting health behaviors and outcomes, such as social determinants of health, are complex and impact people and communities differently. It also supports the individual's ability to identify and use skills to recognize the types of influences, analyze the role of influences across a variety of wellness dimensions, and manage influences on health and well-being in digital and in-person settings. This skill contributes to a better understanding of the connections between individual health, community health, and health equity, which can strengthen use of other health skills, such as accessing information and advocacy.

Grades PreK-2	2.2.1 Identify various influences that affect health and well-being.2.2.2 Determine the ways various influences affect personal health and well-being.2.2.3 Explain how various influences affect the health and well-being of others.
Grades 3-5	 2.5.1 Explain how various influences affect health and well-being. 2.5.2 Determine the ways various influences affect the health and well-being of self and others. 2.5.3 Explain how influences affect the health and well-being of people and communities in different ways. 2.5.4 Use strategies and resources to manage influences that impact health and well-being.
Grades 6-8	 2.8.1 Analyze the interrelationships between various influences on health and well-being. 2.8.2 Analyze individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental factors that influence health behaviors, health outcomes, and health equity. 2.8.3 Analyze how various influences affect the health and well-being of people and communities in different ways. 2.8.4 Apply strategies and resources to manage influences that impact health and well-being.
Grades 9-12	2.12.1 Evaluate the interrelationships and impacts of various influences and health behaviors on health and well-being. 2.12.2 Evaluate how social determinants of health influence health behaviors, health outcomes, and health equity. 2.12.3 Evaluate how individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental influences and factors affect health equity. 2.12.4 Formulate strategies to manage influences that impact health and well-being. 2.12.5 Use resources to manage influences that impact health and well-being.



Standard 3: Access valid and reliable resources to support health and well-being of self and others.

Rationale: Access to valid and reliable health information, products, services, and other resources is essential to promoting health and well-being, and preventing, detecting, managing, and treating health issues and conditions. Access to valid and reliable information, products, services, and other resources promotes health and well-being in individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental contexts. This standard focuses on identifying, accessing, and evaluating valid and reliable resources, including managing misinformation and disinformation, within digital and in-person settings. Media and technology play a significant and increasing role in the way individuals learn about and connect with ourselves, others, and the world. This standard engages students in critical thinking around media messages and resources, including how they are accessed, evaluated, and used to support health and well-being.

Grades PreK-2	 3.2.1 Identify characteristics of trusted adults and other individuals who support health and well-being. 3.2.2 Demonstrate when and how to seek help from others at home, at school, or in the community. 3.2.3 Locate school and community health helpers.
Grades 3-5	 3.5.1 Determine which trusted adults, other individuals, and other health resources are appropriate in various situations. 3.5.2 Locate home, school, and community resources to support health and well-being. 3.5.3 Determine the validity and reliability of health information, products, services, and other resources. 3.5.4 Explain how misinformation and disinformation affect health and well-being.
Grades 6-8	 3.8.1 Describe situations that may require support from trusted adults, other individuals, and health professionals. 3.8.2 Identify supports and barriers to accessing valid and reliable health information, products, services, and other resources. 3.8.3 Access valid and reliable sources of health information, products, services, and other resources. 3.8.4 Analyze the validity, reliability, and accessibility of health information, products, services, and other resources. 3.8.5 Use strategies to manage misinformation and disinformation.
Grades 9-12	 3.12.1 Analyze the accessibility of trusted adults, other individuals, health professionals, and other resources to promote health and well-being. 3.12.2 Analyze supports and barriers to accessing valid and reliable health information, products, services, and other resources. 3.12.3 Evaluate the validity, reliability, and accessibility of health information, products, services, and other resources. 3.12.4 Use valid and reliable sources of health information, products, services, and other resources. 3.12.5 Apply strategies to manage misinformation and disinformation.



Standard 4: Use interpersonal communication skills to support health and well-being of self and others.

Rationale: Effective communication promotes health and well-being in individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental contexts. This standard focuses on expressive and receptive communication in digital and in-person settings. Combined with perspective-taking, communication skills help to recognize and strengthen interpersonal interactions, create and maintain relationships, express and interpret messages, and manage conflict. Developing communication skills helps individuals to see how they communicate and the ways in which their communication affects those around them.

Performance Indicators by Grade Span: Grades PreK-2 4.2.1 Express thoughts, feelings, wants, and needs to support health and well-being of self and others. 4.2.2 Use active listening skills in a variety of situations. 4.2.3 Demonstrate communication skills and strategies to use if uncomfortable, unsafe, or harmed. 4.2.4 Recognize ways to communicate and respect the boundaries of self and others. 4.2.5 Demonstrate ways to show kindness and compassion. 4.5.1 Use effective communication skills to express thoughts, feelings, wants, and needs to Grades 3-5 support health and well-being of self and others. 4.5.2 Use active listening skills and strategies in a variety of situations. 4.5.3 Demonstrate how to ask for and offer assistance to support the health of self and others. 4.5.4 Demonstrate boundary-setting skills to communicate and respect the boundaries of self and others. 4.5.5 Demonstrate refusal skills to use in a variety of situations. 4.5.6 Demonstrate strategies to prevent, manage, or resolve conflict. 4.5.7 Demonstrate effective ways to communicate with kindness and compassion. 4.8.1 Use effective communication skills across various modes of communication to support Grades 6-8 health and well-being of self and others. 4.8.2 Apply active listening skills and strategies in a variety of interpersonal contexts. 4.8.3 Use various communication strategies to seek and offer support and assistance. 4.8.4 Demonstrate ways to communicate boundaries and consent for a variety of situations. 4.8.5 Use refusal skills and strategies in a variety of situations. 4.8.6 Use skills and strategies to prevent, manage, or resolve conflict. 4.8.7 Use collaboration skills in a variety of situations. 4.8.8 Use negotiation skills in a variety of situations. 4.8.9 Demonstrate strategies to communicate with others with different perspectives and values. 4.8.10 Demonstrate ways to communicate empathy and compassion. Grades 9-12 4.12.1 Apply effective communication skills across multiple modes of communication and media formats to support health and well-being of self and others. 4.12.2 Apply communication skills and strategies within a variety of interpersonal contexts. 4.12.3 Demonstrate how to ask for and offer assistance to support the health of self and others. 4.12.4 Use communication skills related to communicating boundaries, expressing consent. and removing consent in a variety of situations. 4.12.5 Apply refusal skills and strategies in a variety of situations. 4.12.6 Apply skills and strategies to prevent, manage, or resolve conflict. 4.12.7 Demonstrate collaboration skills in a variety of situations. 4.12.8 Demonstrate negotiation skills in a variety of situations. 4.12.9 Adapt strategies to communicate with others with different perspectives and values in

4.12.10 Communicate with empathy and compassion.

various contexts.



Standard 5: Use a decision-making process to support health and well-being of self and others.

Rationale: Effective decision-making is needed to identify, adopt, and maintain health-promoting behaviors. This standard includes skills and steps integral to the process of effective decision-making to support health and well-being. The decision-making process enables collaboration to improve quality of life within individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental contexts.

Grades PreK-2	 5.2.1 Identify when a health-related decision is needed to maintain or improve health and well-being. 5.2.2 Recognize when help is needed for a health-related decision. 5.2.3 Describe options and potential outcomes for a health-related decision. 5.2.4 Choose an option that supports health and well-being.
Grades 3-5	 5.5.1 Determine situations that require a thoughtful decision-making process to maintain or improve health and well-being. 5.5.2 Determine whether assistance or collaboration is needed in making a health-related decision. 5.5.3 Compare and contrast options and potential outcomes for a health-related decision. 5.5.4 Choose a health-promoting option when making a decision. 5.5.5 Reflect on the results of a health-related decision on self and others.
Grades 6-8	 5.8.1 Explain how the use of a decision-making process affects health and well-being. 5.8.2 Determine when health-related situations require the application of a thoughtful decision-making process. 5.8.3 Use an individual, supported, or collaborative decision-making process to maintain or improve health and well-being. 5.8.4 Evaluate how various options may affect health-related outcomes at individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental levels. 5.8.5 Identify supports and barriers that affect decision making at individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental levels. 5.8.6 Evaluate the results of a health-related decision on self and others.
Grades 9-12	 5.12.1 Analyze how health-related decisions may affect personal and community health and well-being from a variety of perspectives. 5.12.2 Determine when and why health-related situations require the application of a thoughtful decision-making process. 5.12.3 Apply an individual, supported, or collaborative decision-making process to maintain or improve health and well-being. 5.12.4 Analyze a variety of options based on priorities and potential outcomes when making a health-related decision. 5.12.5 Analyze the potential impact of a decision on the health and well-being at individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental levels. 5.12.6 Develop a plan of action to implement a health-related decision. 5.12.7 Evaluate the impact of supports and barriers that affect decision making at individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental levels. 5.12.8 Evaluate the effectiveness of health-related decisions.



Standard 6: Use a goal-setting process to support health and well-being of self and others.

Rationale: Goal-setting is a process to support short- and long-term health and well-being goals. In addition to achieving a goal, a goal-setting process includes using practices, habits, and routines in daily life. This standard includes the processes needed to plan, reach, and reflect on health goals. Setting goals is a flexible process, and considers personal and social factors affecting health and well-being. Goal-setting supports aspirations and future planning for health and well-being within individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental contexts.

Grades PreK-2	 6.2.1 Determine a health behavior to change or reinforce. 6.2.2 Identify a goal that supports health and well-being. 6.2.3 Determine who can help when assistance is needed to achieve a health-related goal. 6.2.4 Describe actions that support reaching a health-related goal. 6.2.5 Take action to achieve a health-related goal. 6.2.6 Reflect on the results of goal-setting.
Grades 3-5	 6.5.1 Set a goal and explain how the goal supports health and well-being. 6.5.2 Determine whether assistance or collaboration is needed in setting a goal that supports health and well-being. 6.5.3 Develop a plan that includes actions, resources, and progress-tracking toward attaining a health-related goal. 6.5.4 Identify supports and barriers that affect progress toward attaining a health-related goal. 6.5.5 Track progress toward attaining a health-related goal. 6.5.6 Reflect on the goal-setting process and outcomes.
Grades 6-8	 6.8.1 Assess personal health and well-being to identify focus areas for goal-setting. 6.8.2 Analyze when individual, supported, or collaborative goal-setting is appropriate. 6.8.3 Develop a goal and explain how it supports health and well-being. 6.8.4 Develop a plan that addresses supports and barriers to attaining a health-related goal. 6.8.5 Monitor progress to determine whether a health-related goal or plan should be maintained or adjusted. 6.8.6 Examine the goal-setting process and outcomes on health and well-being.
Grades 9-12	 6.12.1 Assess personal health, well-being, and factors for engaging in a goal-setting process. 6.12.2 Use an individual, supported, or collaborative goal-setting process as appropriate. 6.12.3 Develop a goal and analyze how it supports health and well-being. 6.12.4 Implement a plan that addresses supports and barriers to attaining a health-related goal. 6.12.5 Monitor progress and adjust the goal or plan as appropriate. 6.12.6 Evaluate the goal-setting process and outcomes on health and well-being.



Standard 7: Demonstrate practices and behaviors to support health and well-being of self and others.

Rationale: Developing health practices and behaviors can promote health and well-being over the lifespan and reduce risk to self and others. Practicing health behaviors is critical to incorporating health-promoting habits and routines into all dimensions of wellness. Due to the increasing influence of technology, it is crucial to develop and apply practices and behaviors that support media balance and digital wellness. This standard promotes individual and collective responsibility by encouraging the exploration and practice of skills and processes that support health and well-being in individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental contexts.

Grades PreK-2	7.2.1 Identify practices and behaviors that support health and well-being of self and others. 7.2.2 Demonstrate practices and behaviors that support health and well-being of self and others.
Grades 3-5	7.5.1 Examine practices and behaviors that support health and well-being of self and others. 7.5.2 Demonstrate practices and behaviors that support health and well-being of self and others.
Grades 6-8	7.8.1 Examine supports and barriers to health-related practices and behaviors. 7.8.2 Analyze practices and behaviors that support personal and community health and wellbeing. 7.8.3 Demonstrate practices and behaviors that support personal and community health and well-being.
Grades 9-12	 7.12.1 Analyze supports and barriers to engaging in health-related practices and behaviors. 7.12.2 Evaluate practices, behaviors, and other factors supporting individual and collective health and well-being. 7.12.3 Adapt practices and behaviors to support individual and collective health and well-being. 7.12.4 Demonstrate a variety of practices and behaviors supporting individual and collective health and well-being.



Standard 8: Advocate to promote health and well-being of self and others.

Rationale: Advocacy skills are critical for promoting health and well-being within individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental contexts. This standard helps learners develop and apply skills and strategies to increase agency and advocacy for self and others. Practicing advocacy helps students be informed, civic-minded members of their community, who are inclusive of individual, cultural, historical, and other differences.

Grades PreK-2	8.2.1 Make requests to support personal health and well-being.8.2.2 Identify a variety of ways to support others in making health-promoting choices.8.2.3 Encourage others to make health-promoting choices.
Grades 3-5	 8.5.1 Recognize situations in which advocacy supports the health and well-being of self and others. 8.5.2 Explain how collaboration and communication support advocacy. 8.5.3 Identify advocacy skills and strategies to support health and well-being. 8.5.4 Demonstrate how to advocate for health and well-being.
Grades 6-8	 8.8.1 Analyze opportunities to advocate for the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities. 8.8.2 Determine when individual or collaborative advocacy is appropriate to promote health and well-being. 8.8.3 Adapt advocacy skills and strategies for a variety of audiences and contexts. 8.8.4 Demonstrate advocacy skills and strategies to promote the health and well-being of self and others. 8.8.5 Evaluate the effectiveness of advocacy efforts for promoting health and well-being.
Grades 9-12	8.12.1 Examine a variety of factors that affect advocacy at individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental levels. 8.12.2 Advocate for health issues either collaboratively or individually to promote health and well-being. 8.12.3 Customize advocacy skills and strategies for varying audiences and contexts. 8.12.4 Demonstrate self-advocacy skills and strategies to promote health and well-being. 8.12.5 Demonstrate advocacy skills and strategies to promote health and well-being at interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental levels. 8.12.6 Evaluate the process, outcomes, and impact of advocacy efforts at the individual, interpersonal, community, societal, and environmental levels. 8.12.7 Analyze the role of collaboration among different people in a community to prevent and solve community health issues.



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AVAILABLE AUGUST 2024



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