

The Administrator's Role

- Goals:** Express your goals regarding physical education quality (you don't want to see only kickball games and free play) and quantity (at least 3 days a week) at the beginning of the new school year, at staff meetings, to new hires.
- Attitude:** Show enthusiasm for physical education programs and instruction. Ask your staff to attach the same significance to physical education as they would to other programs.
- Class Size:** Avoid combining two or more classes for physical education. (Schools with specialists.) Physical education classes should contain the same number of children as the classrooms.
- Scheduling:** Provide a blank schedule for teachers to write their physical education time in at the beginning of the school year. SPARK will provide this at the first inservice.
- Facilities:** Ensure that students have a safe environment in which to participate. Schools without grass fields, gymnasiums, playground equipment, etc., can still provide sufficient minutes of physical activity.
- Storage Room:** Provide attention to the equipment storage room. It must be close to the activity area, accessible, clean, organized, and contain equipment that is marked, and that balls are pumped. Ask the custodian/SPARK SPARK Star/students to monitor it.
- Equipment:** Allocate funds to ensure that teachers have the basics that they need for instruction.
- SPARK Star:** Solicit the assistance of a staff member(s) who are enthusiastic about physical education to assist with identifying and responding to obstacles which may prevent teachers from providing instruction.
- Appreciation:** Show appreciation for your teachers' effort, time and energy spent instructing physical education. Discuss physical education during staff meetings, praise teachers who adhere to their schedule and make an effort to provide a quality experience to their students.
- Publicize:** Inform parents of your physical education program. Mention it in newsletters/correspondence/meetings, etc.
- Observe:** Visit teachers while they are instructing physical education. This would not be an evaluation, but a way to show your interest and support.
- Evolve & Grow:** Encourage your teachers to attend staff development sessions, conferences, and workshops in physical education. And, as an administrator, don't limit yourself to only staying current in the core curriculum. You are welcome at all physical education gatherings,