

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
District Instructional Leaders
Elementary School Principals
Elementary School Health and Physical Education Coordinators

FROM: Kristi D. Austin, PhD
Director, Office of Assessment and Standards

DATE: March 17, 2026

RE: Students Health and Fitness Act Annual Compliance Survey 2026

The Students Health and Fitness Act (SHFA) (S.C. Code § 59-10-10, et seq.) requires each South Carolina school serving grades K–5 to report the number of minutes of weekly physical education instruction and the number of weekly minutes of physical activity. Reports must be listed by school, by individual class, and by grade level. Information is compiled in a summary to be presented to the General Assembly each year by December 1st.

A unique form has been created for each school, and principals will soon receive an email with a link to their school's survey. The school's physical activity director should collect the required information from homeroom teachers and submit it through the survey. If you do not receive your survey link by Friday, April 3, 2026, please contact Ben Miedema at bjmiedema@ed.sc.gov.

Once the survey is opened, it may be saved and completed later by selecting **“Resume later”** in the top right corner. Use the original link provided to return to your survey. Please note that each school's unique link allows only one final submission.

The survey contains an option to enter the number of minutes of dance instruction received by a certified dance education specialist. A value should only be entered if dance instruction is given to all students in a class and is based on the South Carolina Dance Standards and dance components of the South Carolina Physical Education Standards. Dance instruction

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can account for no more than 25 percent of the total physical education minutes received if all students in a given class participate in the dance instruction.

All data will be entered directly into the online form using the link provided to each school's principal via email. Data must be entered no later than **5:00 p.m. on June 15, 2026**.

Please contact Ben Miedema at bjmiedema@ed.sc.gov with questions.