

# PE WORKS YEAR 2 REPORT 2016-17

PE Works is Mayor Bill de Blasio's unprecedented multiyear investment to revitalize physical education for every student in NYC public schools. The initiative is an intensive and holistic four-year effort to establish physical education (PE) as a foundational component of every student's academic experience. Research shows that physically active students do better in school and learn skills that can keep them healthy for their entire lives. Building on an eight-district pilot in 2015-16, PE Works expanded Citywide in 2016-17 with a mandate to move every K-12 school toward meeting requirements for high-quality physical education by June 2019. In 2016-17, the New York City Department of Education (DOE) focused on three areas: investing in teachers, building PE into school environments, and developing communities that are proud of PE.



## INVESTING IN TEACHERS

Revitalizing physical education in New York City requires more licensed PE teachers in elementary schools, as well as a vibrant professional learning community.

PE teachers at all grade levels should be engaged, empowered, and respected for their contributions.

Developing PE teacher-leaders is essential to ensure the gains made by PE Works are sustained beyond the life of the initiative.

In Year 2, the DOE continued to recruit and vet additional PE teachers, and provided elementary schools with funding to hire them. We also removed a long-standing professional barrier to teaching elementary PE by creating a City K-12 PE license aligned with the State PE certificate, while expanding teachers' access to a wider range of quality PE professional learning sessions. These included leadership development opportunities through teacher-facilitated Professional Learning Communities and participation in State and national PE conferences.

## YEAR 2 PROGRESS

### MORE PE TEACHERS

- ❖ **38** new PE Works-funded elementary PE teachers hired, funded by DOE; have hired 88 since the pilot program
- ❖ A 4 percentage point increase in the number of full-time, licensed PE teachers teaching in K-5 elementary schools; Citywide increase in total number of K-12 PE teachers from ~2,400 to **2,530** over two years
- ❖ **27** new participants in Pathways to PE, the first PE alternative certification program with Brooklyn College



### MORE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP

- ❖ **6,400** K-5 teachers learned how to use Move-to-Improve, a classroom physical activity program that supplements PE, from **200+** trained PE teachers
- ❖ **1,200** NYC teachers attended DOE's inaugural PE and Health Education conference, featuring **50+** PE teachers who presented sessions
- ❖ **1,000+** PE teachers participated in at least one of **70** PE professional learning workshops
- ❖ **450** PE teachers per month engaged in Professional Learning Communities led by PE teachers
- ❖ **100+** PE teachers attended State and national conferences
- ❖ **A first:** PE teacher **Rose Newman** (PS 118 Lorraine Hansberry, Queens) became the first PE teacher ever to win a DOE Big Apple Award, out of a pool of 7,800 applicants

## BUILDING PE INTO SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS

PE Works helps school leaders identify and improve those conditions required to establish comprehensive PE and sustain it in years to come. To build an understanding of current PE conditions in each school, PE Works staff conducted individualized needs assessments in more than 1,000 schools and shared summary reports with principals as an initial step for multiyear PE action plans. Needs assessments show that many schools continue to struggle with scheduling and providing quality PE that meets State requirements. This data will allow us to identify where additional investments are needed from DOE Central offices and Field Support teams to support PE Citywide.

## DEVELOPING COMMUNITIES THAT ARE PROUD OF PE

Our community of families, partners, and teachers is essential to revitalizing physical education and improving student well-being. PE skills lay the foundation for student activities before and after school that promote family and community participation. Families and local stakeholders are powerful advocates for PE and physical activity, especially as members of School Wellness Councils or leadership at the City level. This year, the DOE continued to fund physical activity programs and School Wellness Council grants. We also launched a 70-member District Wellness Advisory Council with parent, teacher, administration, and student representation to provide input on PE and physical activity resources and DOE wellness policies.

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- ❖ **1,000+** needs assessments conducted, finalizing assessments for all schools Citywide
- ❖ **800+** schools received a summary report showing areas of strength and areas of focus
- ❖ **71%** of students Citywide were scheduled, according to schools, for the required amount of PE, **up from 53%** last year; gains were reflected across all student demographics
- ❖ **55** schools received facility upgrades (padding) to make PE spaces safer
- ❖ **\$385M** committed in Phase I of a Universal PE initiative by Mayor de Blasio to provide **76 buildings** with designated PE space

- ❖ **176** schools won a School Wellness Council grant, and eight new School Wellness Council mentors led interschool visitations to share best practices
- ❖ **70** Citywide physical activity showcases and events occurred, including **22** adapted physical activity/sports events for students with disabilities
- ❖ **1,600** CHAMPS physical activity programs were funded at **423** elementary and middle schools, including District 75
- ❖ **30,000** students participated in CHAMPS and adapted physical activity programs and events
- ❖ **Thousands** of students participated in more active recess and before- and after-school physical activity opportunities through a newly funded partner program

## LOOKING AHEAD: YEAR 3 GOALS

### INVESTING IN TEACHERS

- ❖ Fund and hire ~200 new PE teachers; recruit and vet teachers for Fall 2018 hiring (~140)
- ❖ Expand the Pathways to PE alternative certification program and add supplementary PE certification programs for current common branch teachers
- ❖ Launch a PE Professional Learning Pathway, a sequence of trainings that build PE teachers' expertise
- ❖ Grow PE Professional Learning Communities and coaching cycles to reach more teachers
- ❖ Train 225+ PE teachers to provide Move-to-Improve to an additional 8,000 classroom teachers

### BUILDING PE INTO SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS

- ❖ Collaborate with all schools on implementing multiyear action plans to improve PE
- ❖ Develop and test a K-12 PE Scope and Sequence showing what students should know and be able to do at each grade level
- ❖ Collaborate with School Construction Authority and School Facilities on the Universal PE initiative; develop additional partnerships and strategies to make PE spaces safer and more inclusive

### DEVELOPING COMMUNITIES THAT ARE PROUD OF PE

- ❖ Roll out an updated Citywide Wellness Policy highlighting the role of school communities and wellness councils in supporting PE and physical activity as integral to student health
- ❖ Expand school-based wellness initiatives and programs through partnerships and incentives.

