

## Connecticut Physical Fitness Assessment 2020-21 Status and Expectations

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Joe Gorman, Waterbury Public Schools  
Tracy Stefano, East Hartford Public Schools

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11 a.m. - Noon



# Performance Matters 2020



11 webinars over the next several weeks!

See [2020 Performance Matters flier](#) for session descriptions and registration links



# Purpose and Agenda

## Purpose/Agenda

- Cover the latest news from the Performance Office on administration of the CPFA for 2020–21.
- Best practices from three district Supervisors of Health and Physical Education on how to administer the assessment during this challenging year.
- Provide districts with guidance and support in developing a clear and well-organized CPFA plan following all CSDE, CDC and district health and safety protocols.
- A Q and A session will follow.



# The Big Picture

## Assessment and Accountability for 2020-21

- Administer all state summative assessments
- Publicly report all available data to the extent feasible and defensible (i.e. assessment, attendance, discipline, course participation, graduation, and postsecondary enrollment) to understand how student achievement and growth have been impacted by the pandemic, and what strategies are effective in increasing student engagement and success.
- Seek federal approval to not implement formal school and district accountability as usual for 2020-21



# Thank you for the Feedback



- Received feedback on CPFA testing through various means already.
- Received feedback from state level associations and groups including CAAHPE and CAS/CIAC.
- Received numerous emails and calls from the field.

THANK YOU! We may not have all the answers and the answers we have might not be what you want to hear, but we want you to know that your voices are being heard and that we appreciate all feedback.



## What we have been hearing . . .

- Some believe it is impossible to administer safely under current CDC guidelines. Others believe it is possible to administer the assessment safely, but the resulting data would not be comparable.
- Hybrid schedules lead to insufficient instructional time to prepare students.
- Remote students cannot be accurately assessed.
- Concern over participation rate and its impact on school accountability.



## Current Status

- The CSDE expects that all 2020-21 state standardized testing will go forward as scheduled, including the CPFA.
- The CSDE does not believe students in full remote learning settings can validly take the CPFA and is not recommending their participation in the CPFA.
- The CSDE continues to monitor the situation and will adjust its approach, as necessary.



# Connecticut State Department of Education

With all of the challenges and roadblocks,  
why not just cancel the 2020-21 CPFA?

It isn't that easy. The CPFA is part of Connecticut's Next Generation Accountability System. This system was developed in response to NCLB/ESSA. Our accountability system needed approval by the United States Department of Education and now requires approval to make any substantive changes to the system (including waiving or cancelling part of the accountability calculation). So, in short, we would need federal approval to cancel the CPFA for 2020-21.

The Department is exploring its options in this area but has yet to make a final decision.







## Top Priorities

- Priority #1 is the safety and health of students and staff.
- Priority #2 is the safety and health of students and staff.
- Priority #3 is the safety and health of students and staff.



# Best Practices From the Field



# Best Practices Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic

Joe Gorman

Supervisor of Health and Physical Education

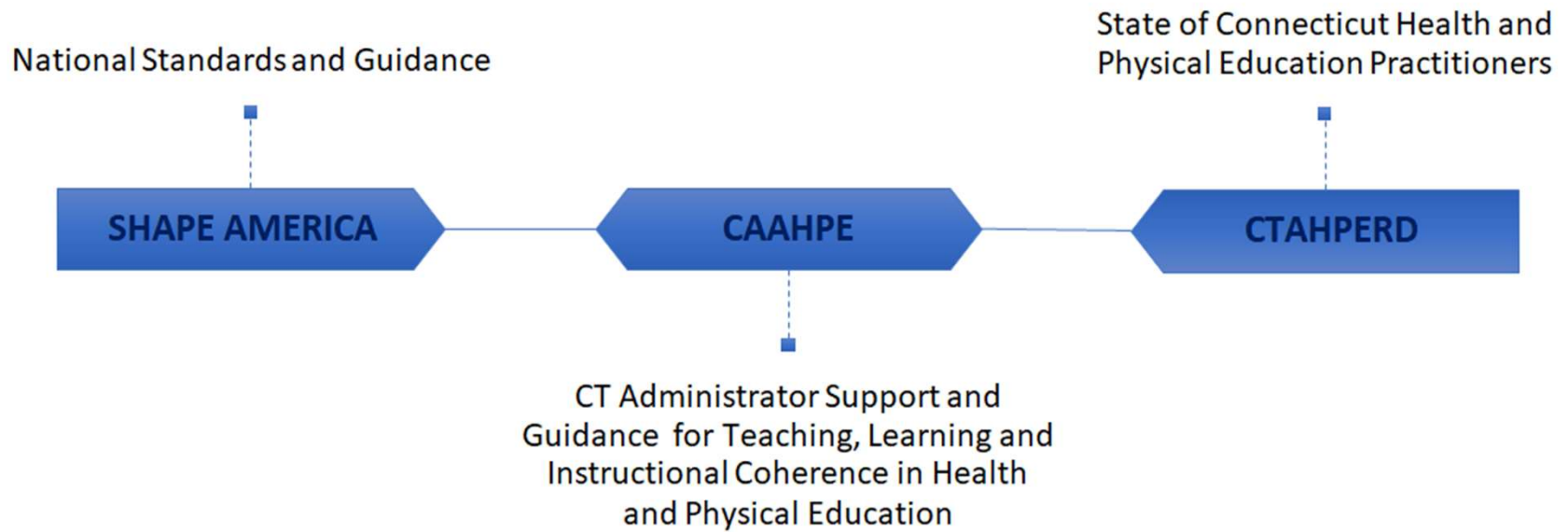
Waterbury Public Schools

[jgorman@waterbury.k12.ct.us](mailto:jgorman@waterbury.k12.ct.us)

President, Connecticut Association of  
Administrators of Health and Physical Education



# The ESSA Accountability System is fully supported by the following professional Health and Physical Education Organizations



# Best Practices From the Field

## Testing Window - Plan for Implementation

- Recommendation of spring testing if possible
- Administer components outside as much as possible
- Pre-plan groupings/cohorts of students for safety
- Communicate CPFA testing plans to all stakeholders
- Work with administration for scheduling
- Review testing protocols and safety practices and guidelines for testing



# Best Practices From the Field

## Testing Window - Plan for Implementation

(continued)

- Ensure access to sound system, cadence and WiFi access ahead of time, especially if you are administering the CPFA outside
- Remind students to bring water bottles since water fountains are not accessible
- Have contingency plan(s) ready if/when closures interfere with test administration



# Best Practices Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic

Christine Wanner

Coordinator of Health and Physical Education

Westport Public Schools

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President Elect, Connecticut Association of  
Administrators of Health and Physical Education



# Best Practices From the Field

## Administering the CPFA

- Follow all district safety guidelines and protocols.
- Wash hands/sanitize hands upon entering and leaving class.
- Wipe down/sanitize testing equipment – mats, boards, S&R boxes, etc. Rotate the equipment if needed.
- Set up and break down of testing stations – follow safety protocols and guidelines.
- Be sure to have all necessary instructional, disinfecting, and sanitizing supplies ahead of time.





# Best Practices From the Field

## Flexibility Assessment – Sit and Reach Test

- Masks must be worn by both teacher and student.
- Practice/stretching/warm up – needs to be done prior to getting to the S&R box for testing to limit close proximity of student/teacher.
- Keep eye on knee to ensure that it is extended straight (avoid physical contact).
- Students who are waiting to be tested should be at least 6 feet away with their masks on.
- The S&R box, as well as any other equipment used, should be wiped down between students taking the test.



# Best Practices Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic

Tracy Stefano

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East Hartford Public Schools

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Secretary/Treasurer, Connecticut Association of  
Administrators of Health and Physical Education

President Elect, Connecticut Association of  
Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance



# Best Practices From the Field

## Strength Assessments – Push-Up and Curl-Up Tests

- Students should be spaced out a minimum of 6 feet apart to test, masks on.
- Students may test with masks off if they are at least 12 feet apart, both inside and outside. Please follow your district policies and guidelines and refer to your town's DPH.
- Students who are waiting to be tested should be at least 6 feet away with their masks on.
- Wipe down/sanitize testing equipment and other resources used after each student tests.



# Best Practices From the Field

## Cardiovascular Endurance Assessments – PACER and Mile Run

- ❑ If possible, administer these components outside.
- ❑ Minimum 12 feet distance between students, no masks – utilize the track or football field if available.
  - A football field would be ideal for the PACER and using the yard lines will help keep distance between students while testing.
- ❑ If administering the PACER indoors, test in small numbers and in cohorts.
  - Test without masks, keep a minimum of 12 feet apart.



# Best Practices From the Field

## Cardiovascular Endurance Assessments – PACER and Mile Run

(Continued)

- Students who are waiting to be tested should be wearing masks and at least 6 feet away from both participants and recorders.
- Wipe down/disinfect testing equipment, recording apparatus ( i.e. clipboards) and other resources used.



# Connecticut State Department of Education

## Questions from the Audience



Please raise your hand in the GoToMeeting application. You will be unmuted to ask your question.

# CT Physical Fitness Assessment

## A Challenging Year!

There is no easy way around it, this will be a very challenging year for everyone, students, staff and administrators.

Our commitment to you:

- We will continue to listen and support you as best we can.
- If opportunities to get accountability waivers arise, we will pursue them.



# CT Physical Fitness Assessment

## Presenters' Contact Information

### CSDE Contacts

Questions about:	CSDE Contacts
CPFA, Data Collection and Reporting	Raymond Martin Email: <a href="mailto:Raymond.Martin@ct.gov">Raymond.Martin@ct.gov</a>
CPFA and Other State Summative Assessments	Abe Krisst Email: <a href="mailto:Abe.Krisst@ct.gov">Abe.Krisst@ct.gov</a>

### District Presenters

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