

<b>Administrative Procedures Manual</b>	<b>Administrative Procedure 261</b>
	<b>Safety Guidelines for Physical Activity</b>
Page 1 of 1	APPROVED: September 2013 AMENDED/REVIEWED: September 2020, September 2019, August 2016
LEGAL REFERENCE:	Section 1, 11, 31, 52, 53, 196, 197, 222 Education Act Guide to Education ECS to Grade 12 Safety Guidelines for Physical Activity in Alberta Schools Safety Guidelines for Inter-School Athletics in Alberta Physical Education Safety Guidelines YouthSafe Outdoor Field Trip Safety for Alberta Schools

**Background**

Safety programs are a shared responsibility of the Division, its employees, parents and students. The Division accepts the responsibility for leadership of the safety program, for its effectiveness and improvement and for the provision required to ensure safety conditions.

**Procedures**

1. Staff are responsible for ensuring that all physical activities are performed with the utmost regard for health and safety.
2. Principals shall ensure that guidelines for safety are followed as per the recommendations in the “School Physical Activity, Health and Education Resource for Safety” (SPHERES), <https://myspheres.ca/en/>
3. Principals shall ensure that staff members are aware of the common-law doctrine of in loco parentis, which requires that employees act as a reasonable and prudent parent would act as they follow the recommended practices in the document “Safety Guidelines for Physical Activity in Alberta Schools”.
4. Principals shall ensure that safety practices identified in various Programs of Study, as prescribed by Alberta Education, are followed as recommended.
5. Principals shall ensure that all students are aware of Section 31 of the Education Act that states “A student shall conduct himself or herself so as to reasonably comply with the code of conduct”. Students will be expected to show respect for the safety and well being of both themselves and others.
6. If a Principal feels that the school is unable to meet all of the guidelines of a particular activity but is still able to offer the activity safely, he/she will submit to the Secretary-Treasurer, who is responsible for Division risk assessment, a plan to address the safety concerns of the activity. The Secretary-Treasurer will submit the plan to the Board for their consideration.
7. If a Principal feels that the school would like to offer an activity that is not covered in the Safety Guidelines Document, he/she will submit to the Secretary-Treasurer a plan to address the safety concerns of the activity. Secretary-Treasurer will submit the plan to the Board for their consideration.
8. The Director of Operations or designate shall ensure that all physical activity facilities including playing surfaces, playgrounds and major equipment, are regularly inspected and maintained.