

GENERAL CHURCH AND ACADEMY PHYSICAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM  
A STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND VISION  
Fourth Draft Fall 2004

The **purpose** of the kindergarten through grade twelve physical education curriculum is to enrich the lives of all students and help them to maintain fitness of soul, mind and body that they may live a life of usefulness.

*DLW 330. A person cannot be conjoined to the Lord unless he be spiritual, nor can he be spiritual unless he be rational, nor can he be rational unless his body is in a sound state. These three are like a house; the body like the foundation, the rational like the superstructure, the spiritual like those things which are in the house, and conjunction with the Lord like dwelling in it. From this can be seen in what order, degree, and respect uses (which are the mediate ends of creation) have relation to a person, namely, (1) for sustaining his body, (2) for perfecting his rational, (3) for receiving what is spiritual from the Lord.*

The **vision** for fulfilling this purpose can be described by the following goals.

1. **Lord:** Assist students in appreciating that they were created in an image and likeness of the Lord, and that their physical bodies serve as the foundation for their spiritual and rational life and thus conjunction with the Lord.  
*TCR 43 Love viewed in itself is nothing but an endeavor towards conjunction; therefore that this aim of the essence of love might be realized people were created in His own image and likeness with which conjunction is possible.*
2. **Word:** Assist students in using the Lord's Word as their guide in living a balanced and useful life through physical activity.  
*AE 209 [People] have power from the Lord against evils and falsities in proportion as they cause truths to enter their lives. Keeping the Lord's Word denotes the application of truths from the Word to life...to will and do them.*
3. **Spiritual World:** Assist students in understanding and appreciating that the ability to use their bodies is the result of influx from the spiritual world and through correspondences to the mind and every cell of their body.  
*AC 3629 The spiritual, when it flows into the organic forms of the body, presents living operations such as appear; and that without such influx and correspondence not even the most minute particle of the body can have life and be moved.*
4. **Conjugal Love:** Assist students in developing their essential masculinity and femininity and respect for the different strengths and abilities of each other.  
*CL 218 The nature of men and the nature of women are different even from the time they are born.*
5. **Charity:** Assist students in understanding, appreciating and applying the moral virtues in the activities of their lives.  
*TCR 443 Anyone who reflects well upon it can see that a moral life is the same as a life of charity, and that this is to act rightly towards the neighbor.*
6. **Order:** Assist student in understanding and appreciating how an orderly development of skills and respect for and observance of rules result in a genuine enjoyment of physical activities.  
*NJHD 279 Where order is, the Lord is present, but where order is not, the Lord is not present*
7. **Use:** Assist students in appreciating and understanding that the ability to perform uses is enhanced by a sound mind and a sound body.  
*CL 16 Love and wisdom exist ideally being in the affection and thought of the mind, but in the use they exist really, being together in the act and deed of the body.*
8. **Human Form:** . Assist students in developing their bodies so that they will have the skills and endurance (fitness) to participate in and enjoy uses that serve the Lord and the neighbor and recreate the body.  
*AC 5949 A person should be thoroughly concerned about his body, that it should be fed, clothed, and enjoy worldly pleasures. Yet his concern for all these things should be not for his body's sake but for his soul's that it may act in a harmonious and proper fashion within a healthy body, so that the body as its organ may respond in perfect obedience to it.*
9. **Community:** Assist students in gaining self-reliance and the ability to cooperate as they develop skills in leadership and team participation.  
*HH 218 Governors [in heaven] desire the good of all, and, from wisdom, know how to provide for its being done. Such governors do not domineer or dictate, but minister and serve. Nor do they make themselves greater than others, but less. For they put the good of society and of the neighbor in the first place, and their own good last.*
10. **Providence:** Assist students in understanding and appreciating the role of Providence in all things as they recognize the importance of doing their best while accepting the results of their efforts.  
*SE 4393 That there is nothing whatever without the Providence of the Lord is illustrated by things in nature which are attributed to nature but which are the ultimates of Providence, for example in games and in all things.*

The **strategies** for implementing these purpose and vision statements are contained in each grade level's curriculum.