

# STATE OF ART STUDY OF THE CHANGE OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT IN SECONDARY SCHOOL IN ITALY

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## Abstract

### Purpose

The aim of this study is to investigate on variation of sport student practitioners in increasing or decreasing sport activity in schools of Naples and what is the solution that the school have adopted to resolve the problem to pay the teachers of physical education in order to new situation. By CONI (Italian National Olympic Committee) researching, it carries out the decrease of the sport practitioners and the (MIUR) Minister of Education University and Research has just enacted the experimental project, called "Guidelines of Physical Education and Sport" with the purpose to improve the sport activities into school. To realize the aim to improve sport activity, it needs economical resource to pay the teachers for organizing, training and doing the competitions, but the special economical resources, that the Minister gives usually, nowadays has decreased of 66 %.

### Methods

Case study trough quantitative and qualitative method. Firstly, it requests to a sample of 10 school to start an investigation in order to collect data on sport activity and its costs in the past years. Secondly, it collects data on new and old sport activities. Thirdly, to compare all data to identify the school that increase the sport activities.

Finally to find out to those school, that increased the sport activity, the economical resource to resolve the question and to describe the steps of the process.

### Results

The plenty sample of 10 school confirms the sport activities in past form but decrease the quantitative of sport activity for each student. They use only the ministerial specific economical resources. Only 4 schools increase the sport activities in several kinds to except the additional amount economical resources. Only one school adds own economical resource to improve the resources that the Minister gives usually. This school deliberate the school sport center with the joint collaboration to sport association to develop the educational purposes of sport activity and not sport competitive.

### Conclusions

It suggests to start an investigation on public sport education service offered by school and by sport association and to establish a specific committee to research on this phenomenon to carry out the data to know every aspect of it.

**Key words:** case study, qualitative research, physical education, sport, school

### Purpose

Nowadays the Physical Education and sport in Italian school meets several following problems: decreasing amount of compulsory physical education, decreasing quality of physical education, high amount of non-exercising pupils, exempted pupils from physical education classes, stagnate physical fitness and motor productivity of youth, insufficient solicitude of disabled pupils, lack of control of Physical Education, weak of social and financial honor of Physical Education and Sport teachers and low interest of graduates, especially of teaching specialization to work in their own profession. To change this status, it should contribute a new project of education. It is established on the basis of educational domains –

human and nature, human and technique, an individual, Society, Culture, Mathematical and Logical Thinking, Language and Communication, Health and Movement, Educational area "Health and movement" is elaborated in subject "physical and sport education" in "New National Indication" (MIUR 2003), "Indication for Curriculum" (MIUR 2007) into modules that includes health and its impairment, healthily life style, physical fitness and motor performance, sport activities of movement regime.

Furthermore the Minister of Education, University and Research implements the "Sport Student Championship Games" every year and gives economical special resource to do teaching

in extra time school by the teachers of physical education.

This process is evaluated by school in its internal path and, at the end of it, it is approved. Due to the decreasing of economical resource to destination to school, the economical special resource for "Sport Student Championship Games" in many schools there is not the intention to do education in extra time school.

For this reason the Minister want to give a response at this problems doing a series of administrative measures to increase motor sport practice in school.

Furthermore By CONI (Italian National Olympic Committee) researching, it carries out the decrease of the sport practitioners and to charge this debt of practitioners to deficit by school. Thus the Minister of education University and Research has just enacted the experimental project called "Guidelines of Physical Education and Sport" into the school.

The aim of this study is to investigate on variation of sport student practitioners in increasing or decreasing sport activity in schools of Naples and the associated indicators of phenomenon. What is the solution that the school have adopted to resolve the problem to pay the teachers of physical education for the extra time school and the Minister of Education University and Research results after an year that it is enacted the experimental project called "Guidelines of Physical Education and Sport" with the purpose to improve the sport activities into school.

To realize the purpose to improve motor sport activities into the school, it needs of economical adding resource to pay the teachers. Because they have to organize, train and do the activities, including the competitions. The special economical resources, that the Minister has given, gives and is going to give has decreased of 66% than the past time.

This new "Guidelines of Physical Education and Sport" to improve the sport activity establishes a new organizational tool inside the school called "School Sport Center". It consists in internal sport association but it needs of new economical resource to pay the teachers for their jobs. The actual question is how it is possible to increase the sport practitioners if the economical resource decreases.

Particularly how the School Sport Center can increase the sport activity into the school and to offer a more sport service for the student if the moneys are not enough as such as the past years.

The special objective of this study is to know if there is the increase or decrease of sport activity in schools of Naples and what is the solution that the school have adopted in this year to resolve to pay the teachers.

### **Methods**

A case study is a research methodology common in social science. It is based on an in-depth investigation of a single individual, group, or event to explore causation in order to identify underlying principles. Rather than using samples and following a rigid protocol to examine limited number of variables, case study methods involve an in-depth, longitudinal examination of a single instance or event: a case. They provide a systematic way of looking at events, collecting data, analyzing information, and reporting the results. As a result the researcher may gain a sharpened understanding of why the instance happened as it did, and what might become important to look at more extensively in future research. Case studies lend themselves to both generating and testing hypotheses.

Another suggestion is that case study should be defined as a research strategy, an empirical inquiry that investigates a phenomenon within its real-life context. Case study research means single and multiple case studies, can include quantitative evidence, relies on multiple sources of evidence and benefits from the prior development of theoretical propositions. Case studies should not be confused with qualitative research and they can be based on any mix of quantitative and qualitative evidence.

Single subject research provides the statistical framework for making inferences from quantitative case-study data. This is also supported and well-formulated in: "The case study is a research approach, situated between concrete data taking techniques and methodologic paradigms."

In this study it uses a case study trough qualitative and quantitative method with mix approach: case study and statistical data.

Firstly, it requests to a sample of 10 school of Naples, that are interested at research, and to start an investigation in order to collect data on sport activity and its costs in the past years.

Secondly, it collects data on new and old sport activities. Thirdly, to compare all data to identify the school that increased the sport activities. Finally to find out at the school, that increased the sport activity, what is the economical solution and to describe the steps of the process. The data on participation of external

sport association and economical resource are been tabled by three ranges as following:

- 1) from 0% until 33% for the indicator of without participation of sport associations participation and for the indicator regarding the additional economical resource without additional economical resource
- 2) from 34% until 66% for the indicator of real participation of sport associations but with a marginal role in sport organization and for the indicator regarding the additional economical resource with additional resource but a little bit
- 3) from 67% until 99% for the indicator of full participation of sport associations with a significant role and for the indicator regarding the additional economical resource with additional economical resource with a significant amount of money (table 1a).

### **Results**

The all data is into the table 1b.

The all 10 school confirms the past sport activities in different forms with several percentage among the schools but with a significant decrease of number of students, that are generally distribute for every schools. The 7 schools utilizes only the economical ministerial resource, while 2 schools utilize economical ministerial resources and to add own economical resources but in a little bit quantitative. Only 1 school adds own economical resource in congruent amount. The two schools that adds a little bit of economical resource has a good percentage of student participation, that is higher than the others one of the other schools, that does not add the economical resource. Only 1 school increases the sport activities but it gives a congruent additional economical resource. Every schools deliberates the “school sport center” trough a correct process as such as the administrative and juridical parameters. Only 1 school establishes a joint plenty collaboration to sport association to develop the educational purposes of sport activity and not the sport competitive purpose. Every school confirms the institution Of “Sport Student Championship Games” and so the sport activities in several forms utilizing the ministerial specific economical resources: it are just of 33% than the past years.

Every school have many problems to participate to competitive forms of “Sport Student Championship Games” (table 2).

### **Discussion and Conclusions**

The result, that the all 10 school confirms the past sport activities in different forms with several percentage among the schools is very good in consideration of the bad actual context of public school. But the significant decrease of number of students, that are generally distribute for every schools, must do reflecting on general situation of high sport left.

The result of 7 schools utilizes only the economical ministerial resource and only 2 schools utilize economical ministerial resources is the demonstration of low culture in physical education and sport into school. Furthermore the low additional own economical resources is relevant to demonstrate the gravity of situation.

The datum of only 1 school adds own economical resource in congruent amount means that just the 10% of school understand the spirit of change according to the new “Guidelines of Physical Education and Sport”. In the same way is the datum that only 1 school increases the sport activities because of it gives a congruent additional economical resource and so the school is according to the sense and spirit of the new “Guidelines of Physical Education and Sport”.

The case of only school establishes a joint plenty collaboration to sport association to develop the educational purposes of sport activity and not the sport competitive purpose is an ambiguous datum. If in one hand it is positive for the educative purpose for the school and not vice versa for the competitive purpose for the sport association, in the other hand the quantitative datum is not positive for the lowest percentage of the school occurs in this investigation.

The problems about the decrease of ministerial economical resource is nowadays metabolized by the school. So the schools have to be adapted as soon as possible in changing of the scenario of public education without economical resources as well as in the past years.

In conclusion this research has shown a complex total negative data on this changing for the physical education and sport into school. Probably the sample is not significant because of the school are in the same territory that is same social problems.

It suggests to start an investigation on public sport education service offered by school and by sport association and to establish a specific committee to research on this phenomenon to carry out the data to know every aspect of it.

**Table 1 a Method data**

<b>Number of schools</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Actual student participation</b>										
<b>Past student participation</b>										
<b>School economical resource in ranges until 33 % nothing additional resources until 66% a little bit additional resources until 99% congruent additional resources</b>										
<b>Collaboration with sport association in ranges until 33 % nothing collaboration to sport association until 66% a little bit collaboration to sport association but a marginal role until 99% full collaboration to sport association with a significative role</b>										

**Table 1 b: Data of ten schools**

1^ School	2^ school	3^ school	4^ school	5^ school	6^ school	7^ school	8^ school	9^ school	10^ school
30% new participation	27 % new participation	29 % new participation	33 % new participation	38 % new participation	24 % new participation	29 % new participation	32 % new participation	30 % new participation	26 % new participation
32 % old participation	33 % old participation	30 % old participation	36 % old participation	45 % old participation	28 % old participation	33 % old participation	30 % old participation	39 % old participation	28 % old participation
33% economical resource	33 % economical resource	66 % economical resource	33 % economical resource	66 % economical resource	33 % economical resource	33 % economical resource	99 % economical resource	33 % economical resource	33 % economical resource
33 % Collaboration range sport association	33 % Collaboration range sport association	33 % Collaboration range sport association	66 % Collaboration range sport association	66 % Collaboration range sport association	33 % Collaboration range sport association	33 % Collaboration range sport association	99 % Collaboration range sport association	33 % Collaboration range sport association	33 % Collaboration range sport association

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