

Student Personnel

Series 500

Policy Title: Wellness Policy

Code No. 507.13

The board promotes healthy students by supporting wellness, good nutrition and regular physical activity as a part of the total learning environment. The school district supports a healthy environment where students learn and participate in positive dietary and lifestyle practices. By facilitating learning through the support and promotion of good nutrition and physical activity, schools contribute to the basic health status of students. Improved health optimizes student performance potential.

The school district provides a comprehensive learning environment for developing and practicing lifelong wellness behaviors. The entire school environment, not just the classroom, shall be aligned with healthy school district goals to positively influence a student's understanding, beliefs and habits as they relate to good nutrition and regular physical activity.

The school district supports and promotes proper dietary habits contributing to students' health status and academic performance. All foods available on school grounds and at school-sponsored activities during the instructional day should meet or exceed the school district nutrition standards and in compliance with state and federal law. Foods should be served with consideration toward nutritional integrity, variety, appeal, taste, safety and packaging to ensure high-quality meals.

The school district will make every effort to eliminate any social stigma attached to, and prevent the overt identification of, students who are eligible for free and reduced-price meals. Toward this end, the school district may utilize electronic identification and payment systems; provide meals at no charge to all children, regardless of income; promote the availability of meals to all students; and/or use nontraditional methods for serving meals, such as "grab-and-go" or classroom breakfast.

The local wellness policy will be implemented and monitored by the School Improvement Advisory Committee.

Specific Wellness Goals

1. Nutrition Education and Promotion

The school district will provide nutrition education and engage in nutrition promotion that:

- is offered at each level to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to promote and protect their health; and
- promotes fruits, vegetables, whole-grain products, low-fat and fat-free dairy products, healthy food preparation methods and health-enhancing nutrition practices.

2. Physical Activity

A. Daily Physical Education

The school district will provide physical education that:

- is for all students in grades K-12 for the entire school year;
- is taught by a certified physical education teacher; and

- includes students with disabilities, students with special health-care needs may be provided in alternative educational settings.

B. Daily Recess

Elementary schools should provide recess for students that:

- is at least 20 minutes a day;
- is preferably outdoors; and
- encourages moderate to vigorous physical activity verbally and through the provision of space and equipment.

3. Other School-based Activities That Promote Student Wellness

A. Integrating Physical Activity into Classroom Settings

For students to receive the nationally recommended amount of daily physical activity and for students to fully embrace regular physical activity as a personal behavior, students need opportunities for physical activity beyond the physical education class. Toward that end, the school district will:

- offer classroom health education that complements physical education by reinforcing the knowledge and self-management skills needed to maintain a physically active lifestyle and to reduce time spent on sedentary activities.

B. Communication with Parents

The school district will support parents' efforts to provide a healthy diet and daily physical activity for their children. The school district will:

- provide nutrition information; and
- provide information about physical education and other school-based physical activity opportunities.

Nutrition Guidelines for All Foods Available on Campus

The nutrition guidelines for all foods available will focus on promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity in the district.

Plan for Measuring Implementation

The superintendent will ensure compliance with established school district-wide nutrition and physical activity wellness policies.

In each school:

- the principal will ensure compliance with those policies in the school and will report on the school's compliance to the superintendent; and,
- food service staff, at the school or school district level, will ensure compliance with nutrition policies within food service areas and will report on this matter to the superintendent or principal.

In the school district:

- the school district will report on the most recent USDA School Meals Initiative (SMI) review findings and any resulting changes. If the school district has not received a SMI review from the state agency within the past five years, the school district will request from the state agency that a SMI review be scheduled as soon as possible;
- the superintendent will develop a summary report every three years on school district-wide compliance with the school district's established nutrition and physical activity wellness policies, based on input from schools within the school district; and,
- the report will be provided to the school board and also distributed to all school wellness committees, parent/teacher organizations, principals and health services personnel in the school district.

Assessments will be repeated every 3 years to help review policy compliance, assess progress and determine areas in need of improvement. As part of that review, the school district will review the nutrition and physical activity policies and practices and the provision of an environment that supports healthy eating and physical activity. The school district, and individual schools within the school district will, revise the wellness policies and develop work plans to facilitate their implementation.

Date of Adoption:
January 8, 2014

Legal References:
Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, 42
U.S.C. 1751 *et seq.* (2005)
Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. 1771 *et seq.*

Date Amended:

Related Administrative Rules and Regulations:

Date Reviewed:
July 19, 2017