

POLICY

2006

5661

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Non-Instructional/Business Operations

SUBJECT: WELLNESS

The District is committed to providing a school environment that promotes and protects children's health, well-being, and the ability to learn by fostering healthy eating and physical activity.

The District has established a wellness committee that meets at least four times per year to establish goals for, and oversee the development of, the District's local wellness policy. The Committee will make policy recommendations for review and adoption by the Board. The District Wellness Committee may include, but is not limited to, representatives from each of the following groups:

- a) Parents and caregivers;
- b) Students;
- c) Physical Education teachers;
- d) School health professionals;
- e) District food service program;
- f) School Board;
- g) School administrators; and
- i) Members of the public.

The District Wellness Committee will also be responsible for assessing current activities, programs, and policies available in the District, and providing mechanisms for implementation, evaluation, and revision of this policy. In so doing, the Wellness Committee will evaluate and make recommendations which reflect the specific needs of the District and its students.

Goals to Promote Student Wellness

The District seeks to ensure all of its students obtain the knowledge and skills necessary to make nutritious food selections and enjoy life-long physical activity. To this end, the District sets forth the following goals relating to nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, and other school-based activities.

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Nutrition Promotion and Education

The District will model and encourage healthy eating by all students by engaging in nutrition education and promotion by:

- a) Marketing and Promotion
 1. Marketing and advertising of foods and beverages on school campuses during the school day will be consistent with nutrition education and health promotion. As such, schools will restrict food and beverage marketing to the promotion of those foods and beverages that meet the nutrition standards set forth by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act's "Smart Snacks in Schools" Rule and that are consistent with this policy.

Physical Activity

- a) The District will provide opportunities for every student to participate in physical education and be involved with physical activities. In doing so, the District aims to promote among student the development of knowledge and skills for specific physical activities, the maintenance of physical fitness, regular participation in physical activity, and an understanding of the short-term and long-term benefits from a physically active and healthy lifestyle.
- b) The District will ensure that the following standards are met to achieve its goals relative to physical education and physical activity:
 1. The District will have a Board-approved Physical Education Plan on file with the New York State Education Department that meets or exceeds the requirements set forth in Section 135.4 of the Commissioner's regulations.

Other School-Based Activities

- a) Federal School Meal Programs
 1. The District will participate to the maximum extent practicable in available federal school meal programs (including the School Breakfast Program (SBP), National School Lunch Program (NSLP), and Summer Food Service Program). Food served through these programs will meet all applicable federal and state standards.
- b) Access to School Nutrition Programs

The District will utilize a system of student payment that ensures all eligible students have access to free/reduced meals in a non-stigmatizing manner.

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Nutrition Guidelines

In an effort to encourage healthy life-long eating habits by providing foods that are high in nutrients, low in saturated fat and added sugars, have zero grams' trans-fat per serving, and are of moderate portion size, the District Wellness Committee recommends nutrition standards to be set for all foods and beverages available on school campus. For purposes of this policy, the school day is defined as the period from the midnight before, to the end of the official school day.

School Meals

All schools meals will, at a minimum, meet the program requirements and nutrition standards of the School Breakfast and National School Lunch Programs.

Fundraising

- a) All foods and beverages sold as or during a fundraiser during the school day will meet the nutritional requirements listed in the USDA Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act "Smart Snacks in Schools" Rule.

Competitive Foods

- a) Competitive foods--which include all foods and beverages sold to students outside of the school meal programs, on the school campus in student accessible areas, and at any time during the school day -- will follow, at a minimum, the nutrition standards specified by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act. These standards will apply to all foods and beverages sold individually and outside of the reimbursable school meal, including vending machines, school stores, and cafeteria a la carte lines.
- b) Additionally, the District will not sell foods of minimal nutritional value in the student store, from a machine, or anywhere in the building from the beginning of the school day until the end of the last lunch period. Prohibited foods include: soda water, water ices (excluding ices containing fruit or fruit juices), chewing gum, hard candy, jellies, gums, marshmallow candies, licorice, fondants (soft mints, candy corn), cotton candy, and candy-coated popcorn.

Implementation and Evaluation of the Wellness Policy

- a) The District will establish an implementation and evaluation plan for this policy in order to monitor its effectiveness and the possible need for modification over time. To this end, the District has designated the following individual(s) as District Wellness Coordinator to ensure that the District meets the goals and mandates of this policy:

Food Service Manager and Building Principals

- b) The District will annually report on the progress each of its schools has made toward meeting the goals of this policy. This report will include:

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1. The website address for the wellness policy and/or information on how the public can access a copy;
 2. A description of each school's progress in meeting the wellness policy goals;
 3. A summary of each school's local school wellness events or activities;
 4. Contact information for the leader(s) of the Wellness Committee; and
 5. Information on how individuals can get involved in the Wellness Committee's work.
- c) Assessments of compliance with the District's wellness policy and implementation efforts will be repeated on a triennial basis. The assessment will include:
1. Compliance with the wellness policy;
 2. How the wellness policy compares to model wellness policies; and
 3. Progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy.
- g) The District will, as necessary, revise and update this wellness policy, but at least every three years following the triennial assessment, and develop work plans to facilitate its implementation.

42 USC § 1758(b)
7 CFR § 210.11
79 FR 10693
Education Law § 915
8 NYCRR § 135.4

NOTE: Refer also to Policy # 5660 -- School Food Service Program (Lunch and Breakfast)

Adopted: 5/25/06
Amended: 5/8/18