

STUDENT WELLNESS

The Board of Education recognizes the link between student health and learning and desires to provide a comprehensive program promoting healthy eating and physical activity for District students. The Superintendent or designee shall coordinate and align District efforts to support student wellness through health education and activity, health services, nutrition services, psychological and counseling services, and a safe and healthy school environment. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies for promoting staff wellness and for involving parents/guardians and the community in reinforcing students' understanding and appreciation of the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

Health and Wellness Committee

The Superintendent or designee shall encourage parents/guardians, students, food and nutrition employees, teachers, school health professionals, Board members, school administrators, and members of the public to participate in the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the District's student wellness policy. (42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.30)

To fulfill this requirement, the Superintendent or designee may appoint a health and wellness committee or other District committee and a health and wellness coordinator. The committee may include representatives of the groups listed above, as well as health educators, curriculum directors, counselors, before and after school program staff, health practitioners, and/or others interested in school health issues.

The health and wellness committee or other District committee shall advise the District on health-related issues, activities, policies, and programs. At the discretion of the Superintendent or designee, the duties of the health and wellness committee may also include the planning, implementation, and evaluation of activities to promote health within the school district.

Goals for Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Other Wellness Activities

The Board shall adopt goals for nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that promote student wellness. In developing such goals, The Board shall review and consider evidence-based strategies and techniques. (42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.30)

The District's nutrition education and physical education programs shall be based on research, shall be consistent with the expectations established in the state's curriculum frameworks and content standards, and shall be designed to build the skills and knowledge that all students need to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

The nutrition education program shall include, but is not limited to, information about the benefits of healthy eating for academic achievement, disease prevention, weight management, and oral health. Nutrition education shall be provided as part of the health education curriculum and, as appropriate, shall be integrated into other academic subjects in the regular educational program, before and after school programs, summer learning programs, and school garden programs.

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All students shall be provided opportunities to be physically active on a regular basis. Opportunities for moderate to vigorous physical activity shall be provided through physical education and recess and may also be provided through school athletic programs, extracurricular programs, before and after school programs, summer learning programs, programs encouraging students to walk or bicycle to and from school, in-class physical activity breaks, and other structured and unstructured activities.

To ensure that students have access to comprehensive health services, the district shall provide access to health services at or near district schools and/or provide referrals to community resources.

The Board recognizes that a safe, positive school environment is important to students' physical and mental health and thus prohibits bullying and harassment, including bullying on the basis of weight or health condition.

Professional development shall be regularly offered to the food and nutrition staff, health education teachers, physical education teachers, coaches, activity supervisors, and other staff as appropriate to enhance their knowledge and skills related to student health and wellness.

The Superintendent or designee shall encourage staff to serve as positive role models for healthy eating and physical fitness. He/she shall promote work-site wellness programs and may provide opportunities for regular physical activity among employees.

Nutrition Guidelines for All Foods Sold, Served, or Given to Students at School

For all foods and beverages available on each campus during the school day, the District shall adopt nutrition guidelines that are consistent with federal, state, and local regulations which support the objectives of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity. (42 USC 1758b)

To maximize the District's ability to provide nutritious meals and snacks, all District schools shall participate in available federal school nutrition programs, including the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs and after school snack programs, to the extent possible.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide access to free, potable water in the food and nutrition area during meal times in accordance with Education Code 38086 and 42 USC 1758, and shall encourage students' consumption of water by educating them about the health benefits of water and by serving water in an appealing manner.

The Board believes that all foods and beverages sold, served, or given to students at District schools, should support the health curriculum and promote optimal health. Nutrition standards adopted by the District for foods and beverages provided through student stores, vending machines, fundraisers, classroom celebrations, or other venues shall meet or exceed local, state, and federal nutrition standards.

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The Superintendent or designee shall encourage school organizations to use non-food items for fundraising purposes. He/she also shall encourage school staff to avoid the use of food as a reward for students' academic performance, accomplishments, or classroom behavior.

To reinforce the District's nutrition education program, the Board prohibits the marketing and advertising of foods and beverages that do not meet nutrition standards for the sale of foods and beverages on campus during the school day. (7 CFR 210.30)

Program Implementation and Evaluation

The Superintendent or designee shall designate at least one person within the District and at each school charged with operational responsibility for ensuring implementation of the District's wellness policy. (42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.30)

The Superintendent or designee shall assess the implementation and effectiveness of this policy at least once every three years. (42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.30)

The assessment shall include the extent to which District schools are in compliance with this policy, the extent to which this policy compares to model wellness policies available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and a description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy. (42 USD 1758b)

The Superintendent or designee shall invite feedback on district and school wellness activities from food and nutrition personnel, school administrators, health and wellness committee, parents/guardians, students, teachers, before and after school program staff, and/or other appropriate persons.

The Board and the Superintendent or designee shall establish indicators that will be used to measure the implementation and effectiveness of the District activities related to student wellness. Such indicators may include, but are not limited to:

1. Description of the District's nutrition education, physical education, and health education curricula and the extent to which they align with state academic content standards and legal requirements.
2. Analysis of the nutrition content of school meals and snacks served in all District programs, based on a sample of menus and production records.
3. Student participation rates in all school meal and/or snack programs, including the number of students enrolled in the free and reduced-price meals program compared to the number of students eligible for that program.
4. Extent to which foods and beverages sold on campus outside the food and nutrition program, such as through vending machines, student stores, or fundraisers, comply with nutrition standards and competitive food sales regulations.

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5. Extent to which other foods and beverages available on campus during the school day, such as foods and beverages for classroom parties, school celebrations, and rewards/incentives, comply with nutrition standards.
6. Results of the state's physical fitness test at applicable grade levels.
7. Number of minutes of physical education offered at each grade span, and the estimated percentage of class time spent in moderate to vigorous physical activity.
8. Description of District efforts to provide additional opportunities for physical activity outside of the physical education program.
9. Description of other district-wide or school-based wellness activities offered, including the number of sites and/or students participating, as appropriate.

As feasible, the assessment report may include a comparison of results across multiple years, a comparison of district data with county, statewide, or national data, and/or a comparison of wellness data with other student outcomes such as academic indicators or student discipline rates.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall prepare and maintain the proper documentation and records needed for the administrative review of the District's wellness policy conducted by the California Department of Education (CDE) every three years.

The assessment results of both the District and state evaluations shall be submitted to the Board for the purposes of evaluating policy and practice, recognizing accomplishments, and making policy adjustments as needed to focus district resources and efforts on actions that are most likely to make a positive impact on student health and achievement.

Notifications

The Superintendent or designee shall inform the public about the content and implementation of the District's wellness policy and shall make the policy, and any updates to the policy, available to the public on an annual basis. He/she shall also inform the public of the District's progress towards meeting the goals of the wellness policy, including the availability of the triennial District assessment. (Education Code 49432; 42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.30)

The Superintendent or designee shall distribute this information through the most effective methods of communications, including district or school newsletters, handouts, parent/guardian meetings, district and school web sites, and other communications. Outreach to parents/guardians shall emphasize the relationship between student health and wellness and academic performance.

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Records: The Superintendent or designee shall retain records that document compliance with 7 CFR 210.30, including, but not limited to, the written student wellness policy, documentation of the triennial assessment of the wellness policy for each school site, and documentation demonstrating compliance with the community involvement requirements, including requirements to make the policy and assessment results available to the public.

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- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: 202-690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33350-33354 CDE responsibilities re: physical education
38086 Free fresh drinking water
49430-49436 Pupil Nutrition, Health, and Achievement Act of 2001
49490-49494 School breakfast and lunch programs
49500-49505 School meals
49510-49520 Nutrition
49530-49536 Child Nutrition Act
49540-49546 Child care food program
49547-49548.3 Comprehensive nutrition services
49550-49561 Meals for needy students
49565-49565.8 California Fresh Start pilot program
49570 National School Lunch Act
51210 Course of study, grades 1-6
51210.1-51210.2 Physical education, grades 1-6
51210.4 Nutrition education
51220 Course of study, grades 7-12
51222 Physical education
51223 Physical education, elementary schools
51795-51798 School instructional gardens
51880-51921 Comprehensive health education

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

15500-15501 Food sales by student organizations
15510 Mandatory meals for needy students
15530-15535 Nutrition education
15550-15565 School lunch and breakfast programs

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1751-1769j National School Lunch Program, especially
1758b Local wellness policy
1771-1793 Child Nutrition Act, including:
1773 School Breakfast Program
1779 Rules and regulations, Child Nutrition Act

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 7

210.1-210.33 National School Lunch Program, especially
210.30 Wellness policy
220.1-220.22 National School Breakfast Program

COURT DECISIONS

Frazer v. Dixon Unified School District, (1993) 18 Cal.App.4th 781