

**SCHOOL POLICIES
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 16**

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SERIES	500	Students
SUBJECT	535	Wellness
Adopted		January 10, 2006
Revised		November 13, 2012; May 9, 2017

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to promote a school environment that protects students' health, well-being, and ability to learn by supporting healthy eating and physical activity.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. The school district recognizes that nutrition education and physical education are essential components of the educational process and that good health fosters student attendance and education.
- B. The school environment should promote and protect students' health, well-being, and ability to learn by encouraging healthy eating and physical activity.
- C. The school district encourages the involvement of students, parents, teachers, food service staff, and other interested persons in implementing, monitoring, and reviewing school district nutrition and physical activity policies.
- D. Children need access to healthy foods and opportunities to be physically active in order to grow, learn, and thrive.
- E. All students in grades K-12 will have opportunities, support, and encouragement to be physically active on a regular basis.
- F. Qualified food service personnel will provide students with access to a variety of affordable, nutritious, and appealing foods that meet the health and nutrition needs of students; try to accommodate the religious, ethnic, and cultural diversity of the student body in meal planning; and will provide clean, safe, and pleasant settings and adequate time for students to eat.

III. GUIDELINES

A. Foods and Beverages

1. All foods and beverages provided or sold on campus (including concessions and a la carte cafeteria items) will be consistent with applicable federal regulations and the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards.
2. The school district will not permit marketing on the school campus during the school day unless the food and beverages identified meet the nutrition standards under applicable federal regulations.
3. Food service personnel shall adhere to all federal, state, and local food safety and security guidelines.
4. 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 school meals.
5. The school district will provide students access to hand washing or hand sanitizing before they eat meals or snacks.
6. The school district will make reasonable efforts to provide students with sufficient time to eat after sitting down for school meals and will schedule meal periods at appropriate times during the school day.
7. The school district will discourage tutoring, club, or organizational meetings or activities during mealtimes, unless students may eat during such activities.

B. School Food Service Program/Personnel

1. The school district will provide healthy and safe school meal programs that comply with all federal, state, and local statutes and regulations.
2. The school district shall designate an appropriate person to be responsible for the school district's food service program, whose duties shall include the creation of nutrition guidelines and procedures for the selection of foods and beverages made available on campus so food and beverage choices are consistent with current federal regulations.
3. As part of the school district's responsibility to operate a food service program, the school district will provide continuing professional development for all food service personnel in schools.

C. Nutrition Education and Promotion

1. The school district will encourage and support healthy eating by students and engage in nutrition promotion that is:
 - a. offered as part of a comprehensive program designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to promote and protect their health;
 - b. part of health education classes as well as classroom instruction in subjects such as math, science, language arts, social sciences, and elective subjects, where appropriate; and
 - c. enjoyable, developmentally appropriate, culturally relevant, and includes participatory activities, such as contests, promotions, taste testing, and field trips.
2. The school district will encourage all students to make age appropriate, healthy selections of foods and beverages, including those sold individually outside the reimbursable school meal programs, such as through a la carte [snack] lines, vending machines, fundraising events, concession stands, and student stores.
3. Schools will not use foods or beverages as rewards for academic performance or good behavior (unless this practice is allowed by a student's individual education plan or behavior intervention plan) and will not withhold food or beverages as punishment.

D. Physical Activity

1. Students need opportunities for physical activity and to fully embrace regular physical activity as a personal behavior. Toward that end, health education will reinforce the knowledge and self-management skills needed to maintain a healthy lifestyle and reduce sedentary activities such as watching television;
2. Opportunities for physical activity will be incorporated into other subject lessons, where appropriate; and
3. Classroom teachers will provide short physical activity breaks between lessons or classes, as appropriate.

E. Communications with Parents

1. The school district recognizes that parents and guardians have a primary and fundamental role in promoting and protecting their children's health and well-being.

2. The school district will support parents' efforts to provide a healthy diet and daily physical activity for their children, as educationally appropriate.
3. The school district encourages parents to pack healthy lunches and snacks and refrain from including beverages and foods without nutritional value.
4. The school district will provide information about physical education and other school-based physical activity opportunities and will support parents' efforts to provide their children with opportunities to be physically active outside of school.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

- A. The Systems Improvement Advisory Committee shall have a Wellness Policy component which will provide parents, students, the food service administrator, physical education teachers, school district administrators and the general public an opportunity to have input into the development, implementation and review of the school district's Wellness Policy. The Committee shall also develop methods to measure implementation of the Wellness Policy and for informing the public of the Policy and its implementation.
- B. The school district's food service administrator will be responsible for implementation and oversight of the Wellness Policy and will report to the building principal, or the Superintendent's designee, as appropriate.
- C. The school district's food service program administrator will provide an annual report to the Superintendent setting forth the nutrition guidelines and procedures for selection of all foods made available on campus, as well as any additional goals or standards for nutrition promotion and education.
- D. The Superintendent or designee will be responsible for compliance with the Wellness Policy and will provide a report of the school district's compliance with the policy to the School Board at least every three years.

Legal References: 42 U.S.C. § 1751 *et seq.* (National School Lunch Act)
42 U.S.C § 1758b (Local School Wellness Policy)
42 U.S.C. § 1771 *et seq.* (Child Nutrition Act of 1966)
7 U.S.C. § 5341 (Establishment of Dietary Guidelines)
7 C.F.R. § 210.10 (School Lunch Program Regulations)
7 C.F.R. §210.11
7 C.F.R. § 220.8 (School Breakfast Program Regulations)
7 C.F.R. §210.31

Local Resources: Minnesota Department of Education, www.education.state.mn.us
Minnesota Department of Health, www.health.state.mn.us

County Health Departments
Action for Healthy Kids Minnesota, www.actionforhealthykids.org