

Dayton Independent School District

School Wellness Policy of Physical Activity and Nutrition

The Dayton Independent School District is committed to providing school environments that promote and protect children's health, well-being, and ability to learn by supporting healthy eating and physical activity. Therefore, it is the policy of the Dayton Independent School District that:

- The school district will engage students, parents, teachers, food service professionals, health professionals, and other interested community members in developing, implementing, monitoring, and reviewing district-wide nutrition and physical activity policies.
- All students in grades K-12 will have opportunities, support, and encouragement to be physically active on a regular basis.
- Foods and beverages sold or served at school will meet the nutrition recommendations of the *U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans*
- Qualified child nutrition professionals will provide students with access to a variety of affordable, nutritious, and appealing foods that meet the health and nutrition needs of students; will 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.
- To the maximum extent practicable, all schools in our district will participate in available federal school meal programs (including the School Breakfast Program, National School Lunch Program, Supper, and the Summer Food Service Program.
- Schools will provide nutrition education and physical education to foster lifelong habits of healthy eating and physical activity, and will establish linkages between health education and school meal programs, and with related community services.

TO ACHIEVE THESE POLICY GOALS:

I. School Health Councils

The school district and/or individual schools within the district will create, strengthen, or work within existing school health councils to develop, implement, monitor, review, and, as necessary, revise school nutrition and physical activity policies. The councils also will serve as resources to school sites for implementing those policies. (A school health council shall consist of a group of individuals representing the school and community, and invite parents, students, a representative of the school food authority, members of the school board, school administrators, teachers, health professionals, and members of the public.)

II. Nutritional Quality of Foods and Beverages Sold and Served on Campus

School Meals

Meals served through the National School Lunch, Breakfast, and the Child and Adult Care Food Programs will be appealing and attractive to children, served in a clean and pleasant environment that is safe for all students.

- All reimbursable school meals will meet, at a minimum, nutrition requirements established by USDA NSLP nutrient standards, including only low fat dairy, variety of lean protein including those from vegetarian sources, all grains whole grain, and fresh fruits and vegetables cooked in a variety of avenues with no added sauces. Both schools utilize strategies to increase taste of fruits and vegetables that do not alter nutrient standards. Food Service Department will make nutrition standards available to students, staff, families, and community members.
- Through surveys and open door forum, students will have the opportunity to provide input on local, cultural, and ethnic favorites
- Secondary school will offer a “create your own entrée salad” as an alternate daily. Salad bar will include a variety of fruits and vegetables, lean proteins, and whole grain items. Salad bar foods will be available to all students choosing foods from main line as well as alternate entrée.
- Utilize strategies, such as batch cooking, cooking from scratch, procuring local fresh foods will help increase taste and appearance of all foods prepared during lunch and breakfast foods.
- Middle and High school will offer low fat (1%) milk fat yogurt or cheese every day at breakfast, and will serve only low-fat (1%) and skim white milk for breakfast and lunch.
- Potable water is available to all students in the cafeteria during each meal.
- Lunchroom monitor is present during meal times at elementary school and School Resource Officer is present during meal times at secondary school.

Breakfast. To ensure that all children have breakfast, either at home or at school, in order to meet their nutritional needs and enhance their ability to learn:

- Schools shall operate the School Breakfast Program
- When necessary, schools shall arrange bus schedules, adjust breakfast schedules, and utilize methods to serve school breakfasts that encourage participation
- Schools that serve breakfast to students will notify parents and students of the availability of the School Breakfast Program.
- Schools will advertise breakfast and lunch menus.

Free and Reduced-priced Meals. The District has implemented plans to protect student privacy, in addition to following relevant regulations.

- Dayton Independent Schools will participate in the Community Eligibility Option so that all students eat free meals regardless of their eligibility status.
- The cafeterias are cashless—all students use a PIN code to enter at register for purchasing a la carte items.

Summer Food Service Program. Schools that meet Community Eligibility regulations free or reduced-price school meals will sponsor the Summer Food Service Program for at least six weeks between the last day of the academic school year and the first day of the following school year, and preferably throughout the entire summer vacation.

Meal Times and Scheduling. Schools: **Lincoln Elementary/Dayton High School**

- will provide students with at least 10 minutes to eat after sitting down for breakfast and 20 minutes after sitting down for lunch;
- shall schedule meal periods at appropriate times, *e.g.*, lunch should be scheduled between 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.;
- should not schedule tutoring, club, or organizational meetings or activities during mealtimes, unless students may eat during such activities;
- schools will be encourage to schedule recess before lunch period
- Elementary and Secondary school have implemented a closed campus policy
- will provide students access to hand washing or hand sanitizing before they eat meals or snacks; and
- take reasonable steps to accommodate the tooth-brushing regimens of students with special oral health needs (*e.g.*, orthodontia or high tooth decay risk).

Qualifications of School Food Service Staff. Qualified nutrition professionals will administer the school meal programs. As part of the school district’s responsibility to operate a food service program, we will provide continuing professional development for all nutrition professionals in schools. Staff development programs should include appropriate certification and/or training programs for child nutrition directors, school nutrition managers, and cafeteria workers, according to their levels of responsibility. ¹

Sharing of Foods and Beverages. Schools should discourage students from sharing their foods or beverages with one another during meal or snack times, given concerns about allergies and other restrictions on some children’s diets.

Foods and Beverages Sold Individually (*i.e.*, foods sold outside of reimbursable school meals, such as through vending machines, cafeteria a la carte [snack] lines, fundraisers, school stores, etc.)

All foods sold during the school day will meet [Smart Snacks Regulation](http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/allfoods_flyer.pdf): (Available at: http://www.fns.usda.gov/sites/default/files/allfoods_flyer.pdf)

Elementary Schools. The school food service program will approve and provide all food and beverage sales to students in elementary schools. Due to limited nutrition

¹ School nutrition staff professional development trainings are available through the USDA, School Nutrition Association, and National Food Service Management Institute.

skills of students in grades k-6, food in elementary school shall be in balanced meals. If available, foods and beverages sold individually should be limited to low-fat and non-fat milk, fruits, and non-fried vegetables.

Middle/Junior High and High Schools. In middle/junior high and high schools, all foods and beverages sold individually outside the reimbursable school meal programs (including those sold through a la carte [snack] lines, vending machines, student stores, or fundraising activities) during the school day, or through programs for students after the school day, will meet the following nutrition and portion size standards:

Beverages

- **Allowed:** water without added caloric sweeteners; fruit and vegetable juices and fruit-based drinks that contain at least 100% fruit juice and that do not contain additional caloric sweeteners; unflavored or flavored low-fat or fat-free fluid milk and nutritionally-equivalent nondairy beverages (to be defined by USDA);
- **Not allowed:** soft drinks containing caloric sweeteners; sports drinks; iced teas; fruit-based drinks that contain less than 100% real fruit juice or that contain additional caloric sweeteners; beverages containing caffeine

Foods

- A food item sold individually during school meals and before and after school care programs will:
 - will have less than 30% of its calories from fat (excluding nuts, seeds, peanut butter, and other nut butters) and less than 10% of its calories from saturated and trans fat combined;
 - will have less than 32% of its *calories from* sugars;² and no more than 14 grams of total sugar
 - will contain no more than 230 mg of sodium per serving for chips, cereals, crackers, French fries, baked goods, and other snack items; will contain no more than 480 mg of sodium per serving for pastas, meats, and soups; and will contain no more than 600 mg of sodium for pizza, sandwiches, and main dishes.
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Portion Sizes: Limit portion sizes of foods and beverages sold individually to those listed below:

- One and one-quarter ounces for chips, crackers, popcorn, cereal, trail mix, nuts, seeds, dried fruit, or jerky;
- One ounce for cookies;
- Two ounces for cereal bars, granola bars, pastries, muffins, doughnuts,

² If a food manufacturer fails to provide the *added* sugars content of a food item, use the percentage of weight from *total* sugars (in place of the percentage of weight from *added* sugars), and exempt fruits, vegetables, and dairy foods from this total sugars limit.

- bagels, and other bakery items;
- Four fluid ounces for frozen desserts, including, but not limited to, low-fat or fat-free ice cream;
- Eight ounces for non-frozen yogurt;
- Twelve fluid ounces for beverages, excluding water; and
- The portion size of a la carte entrees and side dishes, including potatoes, will not be greater than the size of comparable portions offered as part of school meals. Fruits and non-fried vegetables are exempt from portion-size limits.

Snacks. Snacks served during the school day or in after-school care programs will make a positive contribution to children’s diets and health, with an emphasis on serving fruits and vegetables as the primary snacks and water as the primary beverage. Schools will assess when to offer snacks based on timing of school meals, nutritional needs, and ages of participants. If eligible, schools that provide snacks through after-school programs will pursue receiving reimbursements through the National School Lunch Program.

Rewards. Schools will not use foods or beverages; especially those that do not meet the nutrition standards for foods and beverages sold individually (above), as rewards for academic performance or good behavior,³ and will not withhold food or beverages (including food served through school meals) as a punishment.

Celebrations. Schools should limit celebrations that involve food to no more than one party per class per month. Each student will be encouraged to bring in snacks that meet the nutrition standards or a nonfood/nondrink item.

Fundraising Activities. To support children’s health and school nutrition-education efforts, school fundraising activities will encourage options besides the selling of food. Schools will encourage fundraising activities that promote physical activity.

III. Nutrition and Physical Activity Promotion and Food Marketing

Nutrition Education and Promotion. The Dayton Independent School District aims to teach, encourage, and support healthy eating by students. Schools should provide nutrition education and engage in nutrition promotion that:

- is offered at each grade level as part of a sequential, comprehensive, standards-based program designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to promote and protect their health;
- is part of health education classes as well as classroom instruction in subjects such as math, science, language arts, social sciences, and elective subjects;
- includes enjoyable, developmentally-appropriate, culturally-relevant,

³ Does not include when allowed by a student’s individual education plan (IEP).

participatory activities, such as contests, promotions, taste testing, farm visits, and school gardens;

- promotes fruits, vegetables, whole grain products, low-fat and fat-free dairy products, healthy food preparation methods, and health-enhancing nutrition practices;
- emphasizes caloric balance between food intake and energy expenditure (physical activity/exercise);
- links with school meal programs, other school foods, and nutrition-related community services;
- food areas will have nutrition informational items for various foods
- teaches media literacy with an emphasis on food marketing; and includes training for teachers and other staff.

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

- encourage parents to pack healthy lunches and snacks, and discourage items that do not meet Smart Snacks
- District/school will provide information about physical education and other school-based physical activity opportunities before, during, and after the school day
- Support parents' efforts to provide their children with opportunities to be physically active outside of school. Such supports will include sharing information about physical activity and physical education through a website, newsletter, or other take-home materials, special events, or physical education homework.

Food Marketing in Schools. School-based marketing will be consistent with nutrition education and health promotion.

- Limit food and beverage marketing to the promotion of foods and beverages that meet the nutrition standards for meals or for foods and beverages sold individually (above).⁴
- Prohibition of school-based marketing of brands promoting predominantly low-nutrition foods and beverages⁵. Examples of marketing techniques include the following: logos, brand names on/in vending machines, books or curricula, textbook covers, school supplies, scoreboards, school structures, and sports equipment, educational incentive programs that provide food as a reward, in-school television, such as Channel One, free samples or coupons, and food sales through fundraising activities.
- The promotion of healthy foods, including fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat dairy products is encouraged. Marketing activities that promote healthful

⁴ Advertising of low-nutrition foods and beverages is permissible in supplementary classroom and library materials, such as newspapers, magazines, the Internet, and similar media, when such materials are in a class lesson or activity, or as a research tool.

⁵ Schools should not permit general brand marketing for food brands under which more than half of the foods or beverages do not meet the nutrition standards for foods sold individually or the meals are not consistent with school meal nutrition standards.

behaviors (and are therefore allowable): vending machine covers promoting water; pricing structures that promote healthy options in a la carte lines or vending machines; sales of fruit for fundraisers; and coupons for discount gym memberships.

Staff Wellness.

- The DWC will have a staff wellness subcommittee that focuses on staff wellness issues, identifies and disseminates wellness resources and performs other functions that support staff wellness in coordination with human resources staff.
- Schools in the District will implement strategies to support staff in actively promoting and modeling healthy eating and physical activity behaviors. The District promotes staff member participation in health promotion programs and will support programs for staff members on healthy eating/weight management that are accessible and free or low-cost.

IV. Physical Activity Opportunities and Physical Education

Integrating Physical Activity into the Classroom Setting.

I. Physical Activity

- Children and adolescents should participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day. A substantial percentage of students' physical activity can be provided through a comprehensive school physical activity program (CSPAP). A CSPAP reflects strong coordination and synergy across all of the components: quality physical education as the foundation; physical activity before, during and after school; staff involvement and family and community engagement and the district is committed to providing these opportunities. Schools will ensure that these varied physical activity opportunities are in addition to, and not as a substitute for, physical education (addressed in "Physical Education" subsection). All schools in the district will be encouraged to successfully address all CSPAP areas.
- Physical activity during the school day (including but not limited to recess, classroom physical activity breaks or physical education) **will not be withheld** as punishment for any reason Teachers and other school personnel **will not** use physical activity (e.g., running laps, push ups) as punishment. The district will provide teachers and other school staff with a [list of ideas](#) for alternative ways to discipline students.
- To the extent practicable, the District will ensure that its grounds and facilities are safe and that equipment is available to students to be active. The District will conduct necessary inspections and repairs.

Physical Education

- The District will provide students with physical education, using an age-appropriate, sequential physical education curriculum consistent with national and state standards for physical education. The physical education curriculum will promote the benefits of a physically active lifestyle and will help students develop skills to engage in lifelong healthy habits, as well as incorporate essential health education concepts (discussed in the "*Essential Physical Activity*

Topics in Health Education" subsection). The curriculum will support the essential components of physical education.

- All students will be provided equal opportunity to participate in physical education classes. The District will make appropriate accommodations to allow for equitable participation for all students and will adapt physical education classes and equipment as necessary.
- All District **elementary students** in each grade will receive physical education for at least 60-89 minutes per week throughout the school year. [NOTE: *Additional optional policy language substitutions include: All [District] elementary students in each grade will receive physical education for at least 90-149 minutes per week throughout the school year (Meets Healthy Schools Program Silver-level criteria). OR All [District] elementary students in each grade will receive physical education for at least 150 minutes per week throughout the school year (meets Healthy Schools Gold-level criteria).*]
- All [District] **secondary students** (middle and high school) are required to take the equivalent of one academic year of physical education.
- The District physical education program will promote student physical fitness through individualized fitness and activity assessments (via the [Presidential Youth Fitness Program](#) or other appropriate assessment tool) and will use criterion-based reporting for each student.

[Additional policy language includes:

- *Students will be moderately to vigorously active for at least 50% of class time during most or all physical education class sessions (meets Healthy Schools Program Silver-level criteria).*
- *All physical education teachers in [District] will be required to participate in at least a once a year professional development in education (meets Healthy Schools Program Silver-level criteria).*
- *All physical education classes in [District] are taught by licensed teachers who are certified or endorsed to teach physical education (meets Healthy Schools Program Gold-level criteria).*

Waivers, exemptions, or substitutions for physical education classes are not granted.

Recess (Elementary)

- All elementary schools will offer at least **20 minutes of recess** on all days during the school year. If recess is offered before lunch, schools will have appropriate hand-washing facilities and/or hand-sanitizing mechanisms located just inside/outside the cafeteria to ensure proper hygiene prior to eating and students are required to use these mechanisms before eating. Hand-washing time, as well as time to put away coats/hats/gloves, will be built in to the recess transition period/timeframe before students enter the cafeteria.

Outdoor recess will be offered when weather is feasible for outdoor play.

- In the event that the school or district must conduct **indoor recess**, teachers and staff will follow the indoor recess guidelines that promote physical activity for students, to the extent practicable.
- Recess will complement, not substitute, physical education class. Recess monitors or teachers will encourage students to be active, and will serve as role models by being physically active alongside the students whenever feasible.

Classroom Physical Activity Breaks (Elementary and Secondary)

- The District recognizes that students are more attentive and ready to learn if provided with periodic breaks when they can be physically active or stretch. Thus, students will be offered **periodic opportunities** to be active or to stretch

throughout the day on all or most days during a typical school week. The District recommends teachers provide short (3-5-minute) physical activity breaks to students during and between classroom time at least three days per week. These physical activity breaks will complement, not substitute, for physical education class, recess, and class transition periods.

- The District will provide resources and links to resources, tools, and technology with ideas for classroom physical activity breaks. Resources and ideas are available through [USDA](#) and the [Alliance for a Healthier Generation](#).

Active Academics

- Teachers will incorporate movement and kinesthetic learning approaches into “core” subject instruction when possible (e.g., science, math, language arts, social studies and others) and do their part to limit sedentary behavior during the school day.
- The District will support classroom teachers incorporating physical activity and employing kinesthetic learning approaches into core subjects by providing annual professional development opportunities and resources, including information on leading activities, activity options, as well as making available background material on the connections between learning and movement.
- Teachers will serve as role models by being physically active alongside the students whenever feasible.

Before and After School Activities

- The District offers opportunities for students to participate in physical activity either before and/or after the school day (or both) through a variety of methods. The District will encourage students to be physically active before and after school where and when available.

Active Transport

The District will support active transport to and from school, such as walking or biking where appropriate.

- Secure storage facilities for bicycles and helmets (e.g., shed, cage, fenced area)
- Instruction on walking/bicycling safety provided to students
- Use crossing guards

V. Recordkeeping and Policy Review

Recordkeeping

The District will retain records to document compliance with the requirements of the wellness policy at Central Office of the Dayton Independent Schools. Documentation maintained in this location will include but will not be limited to:

- The written wellness policy;
- Documentation demonstrating that the policy has been made available to the public;
- Documentation of efforts to review and update the Local Schools Wellness Policy; including an indication of who is involved in the update and methods the district uses to make stakeholders aware of their ability to participate on the DWC;
- Documentation to demonstrate compliance with the annual public notification requirements;
- The most recent assessment on the implementation of the local school wellness policy;

- Documentation demonstrating the most recent assessment on the implementation of the Local School Wellness Policy has been made available to the public.

Annual Notification of Policy

- The District will actively inform families and the public each year of basic information about this policy, including its content, any updates to the policy and implementation status. The District will make this information available via the district website and/or district-wide communications. The District will provide as much information as possible about the school nutrition environment. This will include a summary of the District's events or activities related to wellness policy implementation. Annually, the District will also publicize the name and contact information of the person leading and coordinating the committee, as well as information on how the public can get involved with the school wellness committee.

Triennial Progress Assessments

At least once every three years, the District will evaluate compliance with the wellness policy to assess the implementation of the policy and include:

- The extent to which schools under the jurisdiction of the District are in compliance with the wellness policy;
 - The extent to which the District's wellness policy compares to the Alliance for a Healthier Generation's model wellness policy; and
 - A description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the District's wellness policy.
- The position/person responsible for managing the triennial assessment and contact information is DWC chairperson
 - The DWC, in collaboration with individual schools, will monitor schools' compliance with this wellness policy.
 - The District will actively notify households/families of the availability of the triennial progress report.

Revisions and Updating the Policy

- The DWC will update or modify the wellness policy based on the results of the annual School Health Index and triennial assessments and/or as District priorities change; community needs change; wellness goals are met; new health science, information, and technology emerges; and new Federal or state guidance or standards are issued. **The wellness policy will be assessed and updated as indicated at least every three years, following the triennial assessment.**

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In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering US expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (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.

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Policy approved by the Dayton Board of Education – November 17, 2021

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