

Worksheet 3: Identify Connections between Policy and Practice

This document assists local educational agencies (LEAs) with meeting the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) triennial assessment requirements for the local school wellness policy (LSWP). For information on the triennial assessment process, refer to [Guidance for School Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment](#). For additional worksheets, visit the “What’s Next” section of the CSDE’s School Wellness Policies webpage.



The USDA requires that LEAs must publicly share the results of their wellness policy triennial assessment (e.g., through the district’s website). Information shared with the public must include 1) how the language in the LEA’s wellness policy compares to the model wellness policy; and 2) areas where there is a strong or weak policy, but practice implementation is either absent or limited.

This worksheet includes four sections that assess the connections between the LEA’s wellness policy and practices. The table below summarizes which sections the LEA must post to meet the USDA’s LSWP requirement for public notification.

Assessing Connections between the LEA’s Wellness Policy and Practices		
Section	Page	Public Posting Required
1 – Strong Policies and Aligned Practices	2	Yes
2 – Create Practice Implementation Plan	3	Yes
3 – Update Policies	4	No *
4 – Opportunities for Growth	5	No *
* Any federal requirements in these sections must be reported. Otherwise, LEAs may choose to share this information or additional materials as desired.		

Instructions: Use the LEA’s **WellSAT 3.0 scorecard** to enter the applicable policy item numbers and descriptions for each of the four sections. Post the information for all federal requirements and for sections 1 and 2 on the district’s website and share through other communication channels.

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Section 1 – Strong Policies and Aligned Practices



This document identifies where the district has a strong policy and is fully implementing practices that align with the policy.

- ▶ Describe the items that received a written policy score of 2 and an interview practice score of 2. **Start with the Federal Requirements for each section.**

Item number	Item description
	Section 1. Nutrition Education
NE1*	
NE4	
NE5	
	Section 2: Standards for USDA Child Nutrition Programs and School Meals
SM1*	SM6
SM2	SM8*
SM5	
	Section 3: Nutrition Standards for Competitive and Other Foods and Beverages
NS1*	NS4* NS8
NS2	NS5* NS13
NS3*	NS6*
	Section 4: Physical Education and Physical Activity
PE1	PE7
PE2	PE13
PE3	PE15
	Section 5: Wellness Promotion and Marketing
WPM4	WPM7*
WPM5	WPM8
WPM6	WPM10
	Section 6: Implementation, Evaluation & Communication
IEC1	IEC4*
IEC2*	
IEC3*	

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Section 2 – Create Practice Implementation Plan



This document identifies areas where there is a strong or weak policy, but practice implementation is either absent or limited. The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) recommends working with key stakeholders and developing a plan to fully implement the policy as written.

- ▶ Enter the items that received either (1) a written policy score of 1 **and** an interview practice score of 0 or (2) a written policy score of 2 **and** an interview practice score of 1 or 0. **Start with the Federal Requirements for each section.**

Item number	Item description
	Section 1. Nutrition Education
NE3	
NE6	
	Section 2: Standards for USDA Child Nutrition Programs and School Meals
	Section 3: Nutrition Standards for Competitive and Other Foods and Beverages
NS7	
NS12	
	Section 4: Physical Education and Physical Activity
PEPA4	PEPA11
PEPA5	PEPA12
PEPA6	
	Section 5: Wellness Promotion and Marketing
WPM1	
WPM2	
	Section 6: Implementation, Evaluation & Communication

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Section 3 – Update Policies



This document identifies areas where the LEA is (a) fully implementing practices but there is no or only weak language in the written policy, or (b) partially implementing practices with no policy language. Best practice is to update the policy to match the implementation level.

▶ Enter the items that received a written policy score of 0 or 1 **and** an interview practice score of 2. **Start with the Federal Requirements for each section.**

Item number	Item description
	Section 1. Nutrition Education
NE2	
NE7	
NE8	
	Section 2: Standards for USDA Child Nutrition Programs and School Meals
SM3	SM10
SM4	
SM9	
	Section 3: Nutrition Standards for Competitive and Other Foods and Beverages
NS9	
NS11	
	Section 4: Physical Education and Physical Activity
PEPA8	
PEPA9	
PEPA10	
	Section 5: Wellness Promotion and Marketing
WPM3	
WPM9	
WPM11	
	Section 6: Implementation, Evaluation & Communication
IEC6	
IEC7	

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Section 4 – Opportunities for Growth

This identifies areas where the district has either not addressed the topic in policy or practice; or has only addressed the topic in a very limited way.



- ▶ Enter the items that received either (1) a written policy score of 0 **and** an interview practice score of 0 or 1 or (2) a written policy score of 1 **and** an interview practice score of 1. **Start with the Federal Requirements for each section.**

Item number	Item description
	Section 1. Nutrition Education
	Section 2: Standards for USDA Child Nutrition Programs and School Meals
SM7	
	Section 3: Nutrition Standards for Competitive and Other Foods and Beverages
NS10	
	Section 4: Physical Education and Physical Activity
PEPA14	
PEPA16	
	Section 5: Wellness Promotion and Marketing
WPM12	
	Section 6: Implementation, Evaluation & Communication
IEC8	

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For information on the USDA's LSWP requirements, visit the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) [School Wellness Policies](#) website and the Rudd Center's [WELLSAT](#) website, or contact the [school nutrition programs staff](#) at the Connecticut State Department of Education, School Health, Nutrition and Family Services, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504, Hartford, CT 06103-1841.

This document is available at https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/SWP/Worksheet_3_Identifying_Connections_Policy_Practice.docx.



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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; or
2. **fax:** (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:** program.intake@usda.gov

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