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Enlace Academy Wellness Policy on Physical Activity and Nutrition

The Board of School Trustees of Enlace Academy supports the health and well-being of the school corporation's students by promoting nutrition and physical activity at all grade levels.

In accordance with federal law, it is the policy of the Board to provide students access to healthy foods and beverages; provide opportunities for developmentally appropriate physical activity; and require that all meals served by the school corporation meet or exceed the federal nutritional guidelines issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. A Coordinated School Health Advisory Council will be formed and maintained to oversee these activities.

The School Wellness Policy shall be made available to students and families by means of school registration, the student handbook and the corporation's website.

I. Coordinated School Health Advisory Council

The board will engage students, parents/guardians, teachers, food service professionals, health professionals and other interested community members in developing, implementing, monitoring and reviewing corporation-wide nutrition and physical activity policies. A Coordinated School Health Advisory Council will be formed and maintained at the corporation level to oversee the development, implementation and evaluation of the school corporation's wellness policy.

A. In accordance with state law, the school corporation will form and maintain a corporation level Coordinated School Health Advisory Council that includes at least the following:

- Parents/Guardians: Dominique Wilson (parent of: Latrez Vinson)
- Wellness Coordinator: Amneris Crespo (School Operations Manager)
- Teachers of Physical Education: Michael Gross (PE Teacher) Dominique Wilson (AD)
- Students: TBD
- Teacher: TBD
- Health care professionals/Registered dietitians/School Nurse: Elizabeth Sigler, FNP
- School board members: Patricia Castañeda
- School administrators: Mandy Spencer (School Leader)

- Representatives of interested community organizations
- B.** The Advisory Council shall meet annually to review nutrition and physical activity policies and to develop an action plan for the coming year. The Council shall meet as needed during the school year to discuss implementation activities and address barriers and challenges.
- C.** The Advisory Council shall report annually to the School Board on the implementation of the wellness policy and include any recommended changes or revisions.
- D.** The School Board will adopt or revise nutrition and physical activity policies based on recommendations made by the Advisory Council.

II. Nutrition Education

Nutrition topics shall be integrated within the comprehensive health education curriculum and taught at every grade level (K-8) according to standards of the Indiana Department of Education. Schools will link nutrition education activities with existing coordinated school health programs or other comparable comprehensive school health promotion frameworks.

III. Standards for USDA Child Nutrition Programs and School Meals

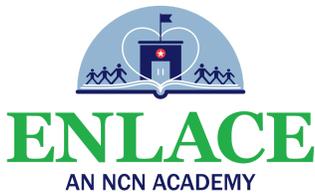
The board will provide and promote the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs to ensure that all students have access to healthy foods to support healthier choices and promote optimal learning.

IV. Nutrition Standards for Competitive and Other Foods and Beverages

The Board will provide and allow foods and beverages that support proper nutrition and promote healthy choices in vending machines, school stores and concession stands, or as school fundraisers and classroom celebrations.

V. Physical Activity and Physical Education

The board supports the health and well-being of students by promoting physical activity through physical education, recess and other physical activity breaks; before- and after-school activities; and walking and bicycling to school. Additionally, the board supports



physical activity among elementary students by providing them with at least 30 of the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity per day.

VI. Staff Wellness

The board supports the health and well-being of our staff by creating and promoting policy and environmental supports to provide physical activity and healthy eating opportunities.

The school corporation will promote programs to increase knowledge of physical activity and healthy eating for faculty and staff. Presentations on health and wellness will be provided at least twice each school year. The school corporation will work with local fitness centers to offer reduced membership fees.

Schools will allow staff to use school facilities outside of school hours for activities such as group fitness classes, walking programs and individual use.

Staff will be encouraged to participate in community walking, bicycling or running events.

VII. Evaluation

Through implementation and enforcement of this policy, Enlace Academy will create an environment that supports opportunities for physical activity and healthy eating behaviors. To ensure continuing progress, Enlace Academy will evaluate implementation efforts and their impact on students and staff. Policy language will be assessed each year and revised as needed.

The board designates the School Leader to ensure compliance with this policy and its administrative regulations. The School Leader may designate other administrators or school employees to aid in determining compliance of this policy.

LEGAL REFERENCE: 42 U.S.C. 1758b I.C. 20-26-9-18

Administrative Regulations

VIII. Nutrition education will be provided as part of a Comprehensive Health Education Program.

- A. The school corporation will provide nutrition education training opportunities to teachers and staff for all grade levels.
- B. Nutrition education will include lessons that cover topics such as how to read and use food labels, choosing healthy options and portion control.
- C. School staff will collaborate with community groups and organizations to provide opportunities for student projects related to nutrition (e.g., cultivating school gardens, reading food labels and maintaining a caloric balance between food intake and physical activity/exercise).
- D. Nutrition education resources will be provided to parents/guardians through handouts, website links, school newsletters, presentations and any other appropriate means available to reach parents/guardians.
- E. Nutrition educators will partner with school staff of the school food service program to use the cafeteria as a learning lab. Healthy items, such as salads and fruits, will be displayed prominently in cafeterias to make healthier choices more appealing.
- F. Nutrition labels will be provided on all foods to allow students to easily identify healthier foods.
- G. Foods of minimal nutritional value, including brands and illustrations, shall not be advertised or marketed in educational materials.

IX. Standards for USDA Child Nutrition Programs and School Meals

A. School Meal Content

1. Meals served through the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs will:
2. Be appealing and appetizing to children;
3. Meet, at a minimum, the nutrition requirements established by the USDA for federally funded programs;
4. Contain 0 percent trans fats;
5. Offer a variety of fruits and vegetables;
6. Include whole grains for at least half of all grains served.
7. All cooked foods will be baked or steamed. Proper procurement procedures and preparation methods will be used to decrease excess fat, calorie and sodium levels in food.
8. Schools are encouraged to purchase or obtain fresh fruits and vegetables from local farmers when practical.
9. Students will have the opportunity to provide input on local, cultural and ethnic favorites.
10. The food services department shall provide periodic food promotions that will allow for taste testing of new healthier foods being introduced on the menu.

11. Special dietary needs of students will be considered when planning meals, according to the document Accommodating Children with Special Dietary Needs in the School Nutrition Programs.
12. The food services department will share and publicize information about the nutritional content of meals with students and parents/guardians. The information will be available in a variety of forms that can include handouts, the school website, articles, school newsletters, presentations that focus on nutrition and healthy lifestyles, and through any other appropriate means available to reach families.

B. School Meal Participation

1. To the extent possible, schools will provide the USDA School Breakfast Program to all students.
2. To the extent possible, schools will utilize methods to serve school breakfasts that encourage participation, including serving breakfast in the classroom, serving “grab-and-go” breakfasts and arranging transportation schedules to allow for earlier arrival times.
3. Schools will inform families of the availability and location of Summer Food Service Program meals, in accordance with the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. Schools in which more than 50 percent of students are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals will sponsor the Summer Food Service Program when feasible.
4. Schools will provide the After School Meal Program, when it becomes available, in accordance with the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.

C. Mealtimes and Scheduling

1. Adequate time will be provided to students to eat lunch (at least 20 minutes after being served) and breakfast (at least 10 minutes after being served).
2. Elementary schools will work to schedule recess before lunch.
3. School meals will be served in clean and pleasant settings.
4. Students will have convenient access to hand-washing and sanitizing stations.
5. Portable (drinking) water must be readily available at all mealtimes.
6. Appropriate supervision will be provided in the cafeteria and rules for safe behavior shall be consistently enforced.

D. Professional Development

1. Professional development and training will be provided at least annually to food service managers and staff on proper food handling techniques and healthy cooking practices.

X. Nutrition Standards for Competitive and Other Food and Beverages

Approved Nutrition Standards, based on the nutrition standards of the Institute of Medicine (2007).

K-12 à la carte, school vending machines and other foods outside of school meals shall be limited to:

1. No more than 30 percent of total calories from fat,
2. Less than 10 percent of total calories from saturated fats,
3. 0 percent trans fats,
4. No more than 35 percent of calories from total sugars (that do not occur naturally), except for yogurt with no more than 30 grams of total sugars per 8-ounce portion as packaged,
5. No more than 200 milligrams of sodium per portion as packaged,
6. No more than 200 calories per package, and
7. At least half of the grains offered are whole grains.

K-12 à la carte, school vending machines and other beverages outside of school meals shall be limited to:

1. Water without flavoring, additives, or carbonation, • Low-fat and nonfat milk (in 8- to 12-ounce portions),
2. 100% fruit juice in 4-ounce portions as packaged for elementary/middle school and 8 ounces (2 portions) for high school, and
3. All beverages other than water, milk or juice shall be no larger than 12 ounces.

Availability

1. In accordance with Indiana Code 20-26-9-19, a vending machine at an elementary school that dispenses food or beverage items may not be accessible to students.
2. Vending machines in middle and high schools:
 - Will not be available during mealtimes.
 - Will contain items that meet the approved nutrition standards.
 - Vending machines for school staff will not be accessible to students.
 - Food and beverages will not be sold in school stores.
 - Students and staff will have free, potable (drinking) water for consumption available in water fountains throughout the school building.
 - Staff vending machines will contain at least 50 percent healthy choices as outlined in the approved nutrition standards.
 - At least 50 percent of the food options available at staff meetings will meet the approved nutrition standards. During meetings lasting longer

than one hour, staff will have the opportunity to stretch and be physically active.

Concession Stands

1. The concession items offered at school-sponsored events to participants, fans and visitors shall include at least 50 percent healthy beverages and foods, according to the approved nutrition standards.

Classroom Celebrations

1. Classroom celebrations will focus on activities (e.g., giving free time, extra recess, music and reading time) rather than on food.
2. Classroom celebrations that include food will be limited to one per month. Food items must meet the approved nutrition standards.
3. Schools shall inform parents/guardians of the classroom celebration guidelines.

Food as a Reward or Punishment

1. Teachers and staff will not use food as a reward. For example, the use of sugar-sweetened beverages or candy as a classroom reward at any school is not appropriate.
2. School staff will not withhold food or drink at mealtimes as punishment.

Fundraisers

1. Fundraising activities will support healthy eating and wellness. Schools will promote the sale of non-food items for school-sponsored fundraising. For a food or beverage item to be sold as a fundraiser, it must meet the approved nutrition standards.

Marketing

1. The Board will allow marketing in school buildings and on school grounds during the school day for only those food and beverages provided by the school that meet the federal nutrition standards. Marketing that promotes student health will be permitted in school buildings and on school grounds.

2. Signage or similar media on school campus during the school day may only advertise food and/or beverages provided and sold by the school that meet the competitive food standards.

XI. Physical Activity and Physical Education

A. Physical Education K-8

1. All students in grades K-8 will participate in physical education in order to meet the Physical Education Standards.
2. Waivers will not apply towards the physical education courses required for a diploma. Credit flexibility in physical education will be limited to elective physical education courses.
3. Physical education classes will have the same student/teacher ratio used in other classes. In Indiana, the ratio for a single school shall not exceed an average of 30 to 1.
4. The physical education program shall be provided adequate space and equipment to ensure quality physical education classes for students.
5. All staff involved in physical education will be provided opportunities for professional development focusing on physical activity, fitness, health and wellness.

B. Daily Recess and Physical Activity Breaks

1. Each elementary school shall provide daily physical activity in accordance with Indiana Code 20- 30-5-7.5. 2.
2. All elementary school students will have at least 1 period of active recess per day that is at least 20 minutes in length as recommended by the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE). This recess period will be outdoors when possible. If outdoor recess is not possible due to inclement weather, teachers will provide an indoor physical activity break in the classroom.
3. All teachers will be encouraged to use physical activity breaks during classroom time as often as possible.
4. Schools should discourage extended periods of inactivity (2 or more hours). During events such as mandatory school-wide testing, teachers will give students periodic breaks for moderate physical activity.

C. Physical Activity Opportunities Before and After School

1. Schools will offer intramurals, clubs, interscholastic sports and voluntary activities to increase opportunities for physical activity before and/or after school, taking into account student interest and supervisor availability.
2. After-school enrichment providers will include physical activity in their programs, to the extent space and equipment allow.

D. Physical Activity and Remedial Activities/Punishment

1. Students will not be removed or excused from physical education to receive instruction in other content areas.
2. School staff will not use physical activity (e.g., running laps, pushups) or withhold opportunities for physical activity (e.g., recess, physical education) as punishment. Students must be given the option during recess to either stand or walk during any time that is used to make up lost time.

E. Walking and Bicycling to School

1. Where appropriate and safe, schools will allow walking and bicycling to school.
2. To the extent possible, the school corporation will make improvements so it is safer, easier and more enjoyable for students to walk and bicycle to school.
3. The school corporation will explore the availability of both local and federal funding (e.g., Safe Routes to School funds administered by the Indiana Department of Transportation) to finance such improvements.
4. Schools will promote walking and bicycling to school, including the promotion of International Walk to School Day, which falls on the first Wednesday of October each year.

F. Use of School Facilities Outside of School Hours

1. School spaces and facilities, such as the playground, gym, pool and track, will be made available to students, staff and community members before, during and after the school day; on weekends; and during school vacations. School policies concerning safety will apply at all times.

VII. Evaluation of Wellness Policy

A. Implementation and Data Collection

1. The school will utilize a school-created wellness policy tracking system to evaluate the local wellness policy and notify the community through the school website annually.
2. The School Leader shall monitor ensure that their schools are in compliance with the corporation's wellness policy halfway through the school year by assessing wellness implementation strategies. The School Leader shall then report to the Executive Director, who will provide a report to the school board.
3. The evaluation of the wellness policy and implementation will be directed by the Coordinated School Health Advisory Council.
4. The wellness policy will be communicated to staff, and posted on our school website for parents and the community to access.

VIII. Annual Wellness Goals

A. Nutrition Education Goals for the 2021-2022 School Year

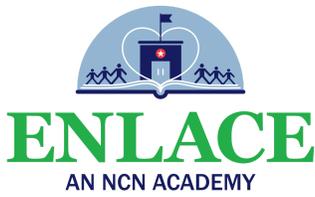
1. The physical education teacher will provide a minimum of one health lesson per quarter for each grade-level K-8.
2. At least two nutrition and wellness education classes will be provided to Enlace staff members each year.

B. Nutrition Promotion Goals for the 2021-2022 School Year

1. The school will post and update annually, nutrition promotion materials for the school cafeteria to encourage smarter nutrition choices.
2. The school will provide parents with health and wellness information once every semester to encourage and promote healthy lifestyle choices.

C. Nutrition Physical Activity Goals for the 2021-2022 School Year

1. The school will provide at least one annual student event to promote physical activity.



2. 100% of Enlace Academy students will have access to the track field for a minimum of 20 minutes each week, weather permitting.

D. Other Activity Goals for the 2021-2022 School Year

1. The school will provide two movement activities throughout the day, in addition to recess and gym.
2. The school will provide quarterly classroom presentations to all classrooms K-8 on health and wellness.

