

District Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment Report 2020

School District: Bladen County

Wellness Contact Name & E-mail: Susan Lanier, sclanier@bladen.k12.nc.us

| Wellness Policy Components | | | | | |
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| District Wellness Committee/Coordinated District Health Advisory Council | | | | | |
| <u>Policy Leadership</u> | | | | | |
| 1. The designated officer for ensuring district compliance with the wellness policy and oversight is identified. (PO-3) | X | | | | |
| 1a. Each school has a designated wellness leader. * | | X | | During annual review of the district level Wellness Policy, ensure each school has a representative to assist with review, edits, and revisions.. | |
| 1b. Each school wellness leader monitors implementation of the wellness policy and reports compliance to the district wellness leader. * | X | | * Last updated February 2020 | | Each school follows the district wellness policy. |
| <u>Public Involvement</u> | | | | | |
| 2. Meets at least once per year to establish district wellness goals for, and to oversee, school health and safety policies and programs including development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the wellness policy. | X | | | | SHAC meets quarterly. Sign in sheets and agenda would serve as a data source. Annually principals complete the Attestation Form for Healthy Active Children. |
| 3. To the extent possible, committee includes representatives of: (PO-3) | X | | | | Sign in sheets and agendas. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents/Legal Guardians • Students • District Nutrition Services • Physical Education Teachers • School Health Professionals • Local School Board • School Administrators | | | | | |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Public/Community Members | | | | | | | |
| <u>Food and Beverage Availability</u> | | | | | | | |
| <u>School Meals</u> | | | | | | | |
| <p>4. Pre-K to fifth graders will be provided a minimum of 20 minutes to consume lunch after they have received their food. (NS-11)</p> | | | | | X | | |
| <u>Foods Sold Outside of School Meals Program, Competitive Foods and Beverages</u> | | | | | | | |
| <p>5. Foods and beverages sold outside of the school meal programs (e.g., "competitive" foods and beverages) will meet the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. (SS-1, SS-2)</p> | | | | | X | | <p>Schools have been given guidelines from the district as to how to purchase Smart Snacks from the School Nutrition department.</p> |

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|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> |
| <p>5a. The following venues currently comply with Smart Snacks requirements during the school day:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Stores • Vending Machines • Concessions | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | X | | <p>Schools have been given guidelines from the district as to how to purchase Smart Snacks from the School Nutrition department.</p> |
| <p>5b. Although the State allows exempt fundraisers, the district does not allow exempt fundraisers. *</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | X | | <p>The district does allow for fundraisers, but only after the end of the school day; not allowed during the school day.</p> |
| <p>6. Standards established for foods provided but not sold (e.g., class parties, class snacks), during the school day on school campuses. (SS-4)</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | <p>[REDACTED]</p> | X | | <p>School nutrition department provides annual reminders to school administration with regards to outside foods being brought into a school; principals have final discretion as to what is allowable in their school (e.g., class parties, class snacks).</p> |

| Food and Beverage Marketing | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| 7. Any foods and beverages marketed or promoted to students on school campuses during the school day meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. (PO-3) | X | | | | |
| District Goals for Health & Wellness | | | | | |
| Nutrition Education | | | | | |
| 8. Schools will provide nutrition education and engage in nutrition promotion that fulfills the criteria identified in the district LWP. (NS-8, NS 12, HPE-11) | X | | | | This is part of our local Healthy Living Standards. |
| 8a. Nutrition education is integrated across the curriculum. * | X | | | | In PreK through 12th grade. Additionally, the SN website provides nutrition education resources to all stakeholders. |
| 8b. Nutrition education is linked with the school food environment/cafeteria. * | X | | | | Nutritional posters and other materials are displayed within the learning environment and cafeterias. |
| Nutrition Promotion | | | | | |
| 9. Nutrition promotion using evidence-based techniques, creating food environments that encourage healthy nutrition choices and participation in school meal programs using a comprehensive and multi-channel approach by school staff, teachers, parents/legal guardians, students, and the community. (NS-5, NS-8, NS-9) | X | | | | Following USDA standards on all meals. |
| 9a. All schools in the district are Team Nutrition (TN) Schools. * | X | | | | |
| 9b. TN resources are used to promote nutrition throughout the district. * | X | | | | |

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| <p>10. Promote healthy food and beverage choices and participation in school meal programs through use of marketing and merchandising and through adherence to 100% of foods and beverages promoted to students meeting the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. (NS-5, SS-3)</p> | X | | | | | | |
| Physical Activity | | | | | | | |
| <p>11. Schools promote and ensure varied physical activity opportunities such as before, during, and after school; staff involvement, and family and community engagement, that are in addition to, and not a substitute for, quality physical education. (PO-8, PA-4, PA-3, PA-2)</p> | X | | | | | | |
| <p>12. 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. (PA-6, PA-7 ES)</p> | X | | | | | | <p>Schools have been advised and reminded to not withhold physical activity. Additionally, the Principal Attestation Form for Healthy, Active Children is completed annually which addresses this. The local wellness policy states that physical activity cannot be withheld as punishment.</p> |
| Physical Education | | | | | | | |
| <p>13. District will provide students with physical education using an age-appropriate, sequential PE curriculum consistent with national and state standards for PE. (HPE-3)</p> | X | | | | | | <p>The district follows the NC SCOS as it relates to PE and Healthy Living standards.</p> |
| <p>13a. Fitness testing of students occurs, at a minimum, in grades 2 (height & weight only), 5, 8, and in high school PE course required for graduation. Individual student fitness reports are shared with parents/caregivers. * <i>Per SC Students Health and Fitness Act of 2005</i></p> | | X | | | | <p>Our middle and high schools currently implement this practice; we will review this practice at our elementary schools, to look for ways to implement.</p> | |
| <p>13b. Student fitness data is used by the district and schools for instruction planning, fitness equipment, and professional development. *</p> | | | X | | | <p>Data from the fitness assessments in grades 2, 5, 8 to determine if additional professional development needs to be implemented for staff. We will reach out to a state fitness</p> | |

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| <p>14. All students will be provided equal opportunity to participate in physical education classes. Appropriate accommodations allow for equitable participation for all students and physical education classes and equipment are adapted as necessary.</p> | <p>X</p> | | | | |
| <p>Update/Inform the Public</p> | | | | | |
| <p>15. Annually, the public is notified about the content and implementation of the wellness policy and any updates to the policy. The name and contact information of the designated officer is publicized with information on how the public can become involved with the wellness committee or obtain additional information on the wellness policy. (PO-3)</p> | | | <p>X</p> | <p>The local Board of Education approves any policy updates and those become part of our local Board policy book. Superintendent's Advisory Councils will provide feedback on the wellness policy.</p> <p>The Superintendent has recently named a designated officer (Lead School Nurse) as oversight for the wellness policy.</p> | |

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| <p>Wellness Policy</p> | <p>X</p> | <p>X</p> | <p>X</p> | <p>Lead School Nurse (Susan Lanier) will be added to the contact information.</p> <p>A page dedicated to the local Wellness Policy (and SHAC) will be built out on the district website.</p> | <p>[Redacted]</p> |
| <p>15a. The name and contact information of the designated officer is publicized.</p> | | | <p>X</p> | <p>Lead School Nurse (Susan Lanier) will be added to the contact information.</p> | |
| <p>15b. Information is shared on how the public can become involved with the wellness committee or obtain additional information on the wellness policy.</p> | | | <p>X</p> | <p>A page dedicated to the local Wellness Policy (and SHAC) will be built out on the district website.</p> | |
| <p>16. Every three years, the district develops a report that meets the following requirements: ** (PO-3)</p> | <p>X</p> | | | | |
| <p>16a. All schools' compliance with the district wellness policy.</p> | <p>X</p> | | | | |
| <p>16b. How the district policy compares with state and/or federal model wellness policies.</p> | <p>X</p> | | | | |

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| 16c. A description of progress towards attaining wellness policy goals. | X | | | | | | |
| 16d. This report is made available to the public. | X | | | | | | |
| 17. Records will be maintained to document compliance with the requirements of the wellness policy including items 1, 2, 3, 15, and 16 above. | X | | | | | | |
| Other School Based Strategies for Wellness | | | | | | | |
| 18. SFAs must include, at a minimum, one goal for Other School Based Strategies for Wellness in the LWP. SFAs must explore the use of evidence-based strategies when identifying goals. (List and report below) | | | | | | | |

Success/Updates from the Past Three Years: – The district school nutrition department provided two meals a day to every child (birth - 18) in the county during the pandemic. The local Board approved a policy that every school will provide breakfast in the classroom. The district has participated for two years in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey. The district is part of the Whole School, Whole Child, Whole Community. The high schools have implemented Peer Group Connections as a mentor program. All schools have received Mental Health First Aid training; high school students will receive Teen Mental Health First Aid training beginning in the fall 2021. Each school received a SHAC grant (\$450) to purchase updated PE and recess equipment.

District Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment Report 2020

School District: _____

Wellness Contact Name & E-mail: _____

| District Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment Report 2020 | | Wellness Contact Name & E-mail: _____ | | School District: _____ | |
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| Policy Leadership | | | | | |
| 1. The designated officer for ensuring district compliance with the wellness policy and oversight is identified. (PO-3) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| 1a. Each school has a designated wellness leader.* | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| 1b. Each school wellness leader monitors implementation of the wellness policy and reports compliance to the district wellness leader.* | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Public Involvement | | | | | |
| 2. Meets at least once per year to establish district wellness goals for, and to oversee, school health and safety policies and programs including development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the wellness policy. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| 3. To the extent possible, committee includes representatives of: (PO-3) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents/Legal Guardians • Students • District Nutrition Services • Physical Education Teachers • School Health Professionals • Local School Board • School Administrators • General Public/Community Members | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| School Meals | | | | | |
| 4. Pre-K to fifth graders will be provided a minimum of 20 minutes to consume lunch after they have received their food. (NS-11) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Foods Sold Outside of School Meals Program (Competitive Foods and Beverages) | | | | | |
| 5. Foods and beverages sold outside of the school meal programs (e.g., "competitive" foods and beverages) will meet the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. (SS-1, SS-2) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

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| <p>5a. The following venues currently comply with Smart Snacks requirements during the school day:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Stores • Vending Machines • Concessions | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>5b. Although the State allows exempt fundraisers, the district does not allow exempt fundraisers. *</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>6. Standards established for foods provided but not sold (e.g., class parties, class snacks), during the school day on school campuses. (SS-4)</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Food and Beverage Marketing | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>7. Any foods and beverages marketed or promoted to students on school campuses during the school day meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. (PO-3)</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| District Goals for the 2015-16 School Year | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nutrition Education | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>8. Schools will provide nutrition education and engage in nutrition promotion that fulfills the criteria identified in the district LWP. (NS-8, NS-12, HPE-11)</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>8a. Nutrition education is integrated across the curriculum. *</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>8b. Nutrition education in linked with the school food environment/cafeteria. *</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nutrition Promotion | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>9. Nutrition promotion using evidence-based techniques, creating food environments that encourage healthy nutrition choices and participation in school meal programs using a comprehensive and multi-channel approach by school staff, teachers, parents/legal guardians, students, and the community. (NS-5, NS-8, NS-9)</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>9a. All schools in the district are Team Nutrition (TN) Schools. *</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>9b. TN resources are used to promote nutrition throughout the district. *</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>10. Promote healthy food and beverage choices and participation in school meal programs through use of marketing and merchandising and through adherence to 100% of foods and beverages promoted to students meeting the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. (NS-5, SS-3)</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | <p>Physical Activity</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>11. Schools promote and ensure varied physical activity opportunities such as before, during, and after school; staff involvement; and family and community engagement, that are in addition to, and not a substitute for, quality physical education. (PO-8, PA-4, PA-3, PA-2)</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | <p>12. 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. (PA-6, PA-7 ES)</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | <p>Physical Education</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>13. District will provide students with physical education using an age-appropriate, sequential PE curriculum consistent with national and state standards for PE. (HPE-3)</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | <p>13a. Fitness testing of students occurs, at a minimum, in grades 2 (height & weight only), 5, 8, and in high school PE course required for graduation. Individual student fitness reports are shared with parents/caregivers. * Per SC Students Health and Fitness Act of 2005</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | <p>13b. Student fitness data is used by the district and schools for instruction planning, fitness equipment, and professional development. *</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | <p>14. All students will be provided equal opportunity to participate in physical education classes. Appropriate accommodations allow for equitable participation for all students and physical education classes and equipment are adapted as necessary.</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | <p>Update/Inform the Public</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>15. Annually, the public is notified about the content and implementation of the wellness policy and any updates to the policy. The name and contact information of the designated officer is publicized with information on how the public can become involved with the wellness committee or obtain additional information on the wellness policy. (PO-3)</p> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

| | | 15. The name and contact information of the designated officer is publicized. | | |
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| | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15b. Information is shared on how the public can become involved with the wellness committee or obtain additional information on the wellness policy. | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16. Every three years, the district develops a report that meets the following requirements: ** (PO-3) | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16a. All schools' compliance with the district wellness policy. | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16b. How the district policy compares with state and/or federal model wellness policies. | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16c. A description of progress towards attaining wellness policy goals. | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16d. This report is made available to the public. | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17. Records will be maintained to document compliance with the requirements of the wellness policy including items 1, 2, 3, 15, and 16 above. | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other School-Based Strategies for Wellness | | | | |
| 18. SFAs must include, at a minimum, one goal for Other School-Based Strategies for Wellness in the LWP. SFAs must explore the use of evidenced based strategies when identifying goals. (List and report below) | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Optional Goals- School Meals | | | | |
| 19. Schools will not use foods or beverages as rewards for academic performance or good behavior. Additionally, schools will not withhold foods or beverages for punishment. Teachers are provided with a list of alternative ideas for behavior management. (NS-10) | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19a. Schools will not withhold foods or beverages for punishment. * | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19b. Teachers are provided with a list of alternative ideas for behavior management. * | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| <p>Optional Goals - Water</p> | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 20. Free, safe, unflavored, drinking water available throughout the school day, throughout every school campus. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <p>Optional Goals - Staff Wellness</p> | | | |
| 21. Schools will offer staff wellness programs such as weight management, health assessments. (EW-1, EW-2, EW-3) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <p>Optional Goals - Community Involvement</p> | | | |
| 22. School will allow community members access to the district's outdoor physical activity facilities before and after school. (PA-8) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22a. District has adopted the SC School Boards Association's model Open Community Use of School Recreational Areas (KFA) policy. * | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23. School partners with local community organizations, businesses, or local hospitals to engage students and their families in health promotion activities. (PO-9) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <p>Other Optional Goals</p> | | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <p>Success/Updates from the Past Three Years: --</p> | | | |

SCDE District Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment Report - Additional Information You Should Know

School districts are encouraged to use the following tools and resources to assist with completing the SCDE District Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment Report:

- LWP-STAT-Webinar-Series-Three-Getting-Ready-for-the-Triennial-Assessment: <link coming soon -> will be located at <https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/nutrition/wellness-and-food-safety/local-wellness-policies/>>
- Compilation of your district's completed SCDE District Wellness Policy Annual Progress Reports: [https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/nutrition/wellness-and-food-safety/wellness-and-food-safety/local-wellness-policy-assessment-tool/](https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/nutrition/wellness-and-food-safety/wellness-and-food-safety/local-wellness-policies/local-wellness-policy-assessment-tool/)
- Compilation of your district's Alliance for a Healthier Generation Healthy Schools Program District Reports: <https://www.healthiergeneration.org/>

***Best Practices for implementing policy components**

**** More information addressing item 16 of the SCDE District Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment Report**

Tools You Can Use to Meet USDA Triennial Assessment Reporting Requirements:

- 16 a. Schools' Compliance with the District Wellness Policy -
Full completion of the SCDE District Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment Report
- 16 b. How the District's Policy Compares with State and/or Federal Model Wellness Policies -
Completion of the SCDE LWP Checklist - <link coming soon -> will be located at <https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/nutrition/wellness-and-food-safety/wellness-and-food-safety/local-wellness-policies/>
- 16 c. Description of Progress towards Attaining Wellness Policy Goals -
Full completion of the SCDE District Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment Report

USDA's Local Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment Questions & Answers:

How often must LEAs conduct assessments of schools' compliance with the local school wellness policy?

At a minimum, assessments must be conducted once every three years as described in 7 CFR 210.31(e); this is referred to as the triennial assessment. This assessment is separate from the Administrative Review conducted by the State agency. The local school wellness policy must be updated and in compliance with the final rule by June 30, 2017. Therefore, the first triennial assessment must be completed by June 30, 2020.

Who is responsible for conducting the assessments?

LEAs must designate at least one LEA or school official(s) as responsible for determining the extent to which each school under their jurisdiction is in compliance with their wellness policies (7 CFR 210.31(e)(1)).

In addition to the official(s) identified, other stakeholders must be permitted to be involved in the review process as described in 7 CFR 210.31(d)(1). However, LEAs have discretion in how they implement this requirement since each LEA is best suited to determine the distinctive needs of the community it serves. LEAs are also encouraged to identify a wellness champion at each school that would assist with the implementation and monitoring of the policy at the school level.

What must be included in the triennial assessment?

The LEA must develop a triennial assessment report that describes the extent to which its schools comply with the local school wellness policy, the extent to which the local policy aligns with model policies, and a description of progress towards attaining policy goals as described in 7 CFR 210.31(e)(2). There is local discretion on the format of the report. This report must be made available to the public (7 CFR 210.31(d)(3)).

What tools should LEAs use to assess implementation and compliance with the local school wellness policy?

The LEA has the flexibility to develop tools that will assess compliance with the specific components of their local school wellness policy. Some State agencies and partner organizations have developed tools that LEAs can adapt to meet their needs. Example tools can be found at the "School Nutrition Environment and Wellness Resources" website at <https://healthymeals.fns.usda.gov/local-wellness-policy-resources/local-school-wellness-policy-process/assessment-needs-assessment>. In addition, the LEA must document when and how they evaluated their policy. For example, an agenda or attendance sheet could be used as documentation that the local school wellness policy was evaluated at a stakeholder meeting.

How often does the LEA have to update the policy?

USDA does not specify the frequency of updates to the local school wellness policy, as the need to update will vary based on the content and structure of the policy. However, it is recommended that the policy is updated, at a minimum, after conducting the triennial assessments (7 CFR 210.31(e)(3)). LEAs are also required to annually notify the public about the content of the local school wellness policy and any updates to the policy as stated in 7 CFR 210.31(d)(2).

How should LEAs compare their policies to model policies?

The responsibility for developing a local school wellness policy was placed at the LEA level so that each LEA has the flexibility to customize their own policy based on their own unique circumstances. However, at a minimum, LEAs must compare their policy against model policies during the triennial assessment (7 CFR 210.31(e)(2)(ii)). The Alliance for a Healthier Generation, in conjunction with USDA, developed a model local school wellness policy template that may be used for this comparison: https://www.healthiergeneration.org/_asset/wfqdww/14-6372_ModelWellnessPolicy.doc.

Does the LEA need to do a triennial assessment of all the schools under its jurisdiction, or does each school do its own triennial assessment and report back to the LEA?

The LEA is responsible for ensuring that a triennial assessment of all the schools under its jurisdiction has been conducted. The LEA may conduct the triennial assessment on behalf of each participating school under its jurisdiction or may allow each school to conduct its own assessment.