

Triennial Assessment Report: Triennial Assessment 2024-2025 (3/2025)

District: FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH

Introduction

This federally required triennial assessment is an assessment of district policies and practices related to student wellness as of March 2025. The applicable policies are:

Board Policy 3550 Food Service

Board Policy 3553 Free and Reduced Price Meals

Board Policy 3554 Other Food Sales

Board Policy 1061-1061.4 Student Welfare-School Wellness

The District's policies and practices align with most of the federal requirements and best practices. No previous triennial assessment was available to review changes.

Strong Policies and Aligned Practices

		Policy Score	Practice Score	
FR1	Does the district have specific goals for nutrition education designed to promote student wellness?	2	2	☆
FR2	Do your National School Lunch Program meals (and, if applicable, School Breakfast Program meals) meet all federal standards for meal patterns, nutrient levels, and calorie requirements for the grade levels served?	2	2	☆
FR3	Does your school take steps to protect the privacy of students who qualify for free or reduced-price meals?	2	2	☆
FR6	Do all competitive foods and beverages sold to students during the school day meet or exceed the USDA's nutrition standards, commonly called Smart Snacks?	2	2	☆
FR7	Do all a la carte foods and beverages sold in the cafeteria meet Smart Snacks standards?	2	2	☆
FR12	Is there food or beverage marketing on the school campus during the school day? If yes, do the marketed items meet Smart Snacks criteria?	2	2	☆

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NES8	Do you know where to access the USDA Smart Snacks nutrition standards to check and see if an item can be sold in school during the school day?	2	2	☆
NE1	Are skills-based, behavior-focused, and interactive/ participatory methods used in nutrition education to develop student skills?	2	2	☆
NE2	Do all elementary school students receive sequential and comprehensive nutrition education?	2	2	☆
NE3	Do all middle school students receive sequential and comprehensive nutrition education?	2	2	☆
NE4	Do all high school students receive sequential and comprehensive nutrition education?	2	2	☆
NE5	Is nutrition education integrated into other subjects beyond health education?	2	2	☆
PEPA1	✍ Does the district have a written physical education curriculum that is implemented consistently for every grade?	2	2	☆
PEPA3	How does your physical education program promote a physically active lifestyle?	2	2	☆
PEPA13	Is there daily recess for all grades in elementary school?	2	2	☆

Create Practice Implementation Plan

The district is working on restructuring the wellness committee with new practices to begin with the next school year. Additionally, the district is reviewing policy and practices in regards to withholding physical activity as punishment.

	Policy Score	Practice Score	
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FR8	Do all foods and beverages sold in vending machines meet Smart Snack standards?	2	1	
FR9	Do all foods and beverages sold in school stores during the school day meet Smart Snack standards?	2	1	
FR10	Are there fundraisers that sell foods or beverages to be consumed during the school day? If yes, do the foods and beverages sold meet Smart Snacks standards?	2	1	
FR13	Which groups are represented on the district-level wellness committee?	1	0	
FR16	Is wellness policy implementation evaluated every three years?	1	0	
NES12	Do all foods or beverages SOLD (not served) to students after the school day on school grounds (including aftercare, clubs, and afterschool programming) meet federal nutrition standards (e.g., CACFP or Smart Snacks)?	1	0	
NE6	Do school nutrition services staff members use the following methods to collaborate with teachers to reinforce nutrition education lessons taught in the classroom?	1	0	
NE7	 Does nutrition education address agriculture and the food system?	1	0	
PEPA6	How many minutes per week of PE does each grade in high school receive?	1	0	
PEPA19	Do teachers ever withhold physical activity as a classroom management tool?	1	0	
EW2	Are school staff encouraged to model healthy eating and physical activity behaviors in front of students?	1	0	

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IC1	Is there an active district-level wellness committee?	1	0	
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Update Policies

The district will review all federally required policy language as part of the Wellness policy revision next school year and address any missing language identified in this assessment.

		Policy Score	Practice Score	
FR4	Is free (i.e., no cost to students) drinking water available to students during meals?	0	2	
FR5	Do all school nutrition program directors, managers, and staff meet or exceed the annual continuing education/training hours required by the USDA's Professional Standards requirements?	1	2	
FR14	Is there an official who is responsible for the implementation and compliance with the wellness policy at the building level for each school?	1	2	
FR15	How is the wellness policy made available to the public?	1	2	
NES1	Does the district offer breakfast every day to all students?	1	2	
NES2	Does your school take steps to address feeding students with unpaid meal balances without stigmatizing them?	0	2	
NES3	Does your school or district provide information to families about eligibility for free or reduced-price meals?	1	2	
NES4	Does your school use strategies to maximize participation in the school breakfast program and/or school lunch program?	1	2	

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NES5	Are marketing strategies used to promote healthy food and beverage choices in school?	1	2	
NES6	Do students have at least 10 minutes to eat breakfast and at least 20 minutes to eat lunch, counting from the time they are seated?	1	2	
NES7	 In your district, is it a priority to procure locally produced foods for school meals?	1	2	
NES14	Do students have consistent and easy access to free drinking water throughout the school day?	0	2	
PEPA2	Does the district have a written physical education curriculum that is aligned with national and/or state standards?	1	2	
PEPA7	Are all physical education classes taught by state certified/licensed teachers who are endorsed to teach physical education?	0	2	
PEPA9	What percentage of students do you estimate do not take PE each year due to exemptions?	0	2	
PEPA10	What percentage of students do you estimate do not take PE each year due to substitutions?	0	2	
PEPA12	 Are there opportunities for all students to engage in physical activity before and after school?	1	2	
PEPA15	Does the district have "joint-use" or "shared-use" agreements?	0	2	
PEPA18	Do teachers ever use physical activity as a punishment?	0	2	
EW1	 Are there strategies used by the school to support employee wellness?	0	2	

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The district will review all federally required policy language as part of the Wellness policy revision next school year and address any missing language identified in this assessment.

		Policy Score	Practice Score	
FR11	Does your district regulate foods and beverages served at class parties and other school celebrations in elementary schools?	0	0	
FR17	What is included in the triennial assessment report to the public?	0	0	
FR18	Has the wellness policy been revised based on the previous triennial assessment?	1	1	
NES9	Are you familiar with any state laws allowing exemptions for school-sponsored fundraisers during which foods and beverages do not have to meet Smart Snacks?	0	1	
NES10	Are foods or beverages containing caffeine sold at the high school level?	0	0	
NES11	Do all foods or beverages SERVED (not sold) to students after the school day on school grounds (including aftercare, clubs, and afterschool programming) meet federal nutrition standards (e.g., CACFP or Smart Snacks)?	1	1	
NES13	Do teachers or school staff give students food as a reward?	0	0	
PEPA4	How many minutes per week of PE does each grade in elementary school receive?	1	1	
PEPA5	How many minutes per week of PE does each grade in middle school receive?	1	1	

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PEPA8	Is ongoing professional development offered every year for PE teachers that is relevant and specific to physical education?	0	1	
PEPA11	 Are there opportunities for families and community members to engage in physical activity at school?	1	1	
PEPA14	 Do teachers provide regular physical activity breaks for students in the classroom?	1	1	
PEPA16	What proportion of students walk or bike to school?	0	1	
PEPA17	 Are teachers encouraged to use physical activity as a reward for students?	0	1	
IC2	Is there an active school-level wellness committee?	0	0	

Conclusion

The district has strong policies and practices regarding student wellness. Additionally, some of the policy best practices are found in the curriculum, which goes through a stringent review and stakeholder feedback process. Going into the next school year, the district will use this assessment, the Alaska Association of School Boards model wellness policy, and the Policy Committee to revise the district's wellness policy.

Key



Strong Policies and Aligned Practices - District has a strong policy and is fully implementing practices that align with the policy



Create Practice Implementation Plan - District has a strong or weak policy, but practice implementation is either absent or limited



Update Policies - District is fully implementing a practice but there is no or only weak language in the written policy, or the district is partially implementing practices and there is no language in the policy



Opportunities for Growth - District has either not addressed the topic in policy or practice; or has only

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addressed the topic in a very limited way

For more resources, visit: wellsat.org/resources

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