

# Spring 2026 Wellness Committee Meeting

**Date:** February 3, 2026

**Time:** 2:00–3:00 p.m.

**Location:** LaFayette Educational Center, 205 LaFayette Avenue, Fayetteville, GA 30214

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## Welcome and Opening Remarks

### Kokeeta Wilder, Director of School Nutrition

- Opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.
  - Provided an overview of the **USDA initiative to reduce added sugar in school meals**, emphasizing its importance for the 2025–2026 school year.
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## Vendor Presentations

### General Mills

#### Evan Chanin, Customer Account Specialist

- Fayette County Schools uses cereal products from General Mills.
  - All cereal items served in schools are reduced sugar varieties made specifically for schools and not found in retail stores.
  - Cereals contain no more than **6 grams** of added sugar per dry ounce.
  - Reported that all cereals, including Lucky Charms, now contain **no artificial colors**.
  - General Mills is fully **K–12 ready** and not only offers reduced **added sugar** in cereal but reduced **added sugar** in their yogurt products (Yoplait) as well.
  - Fayette County Schools use Yoplait reduced added sugar yogurt.
  - The Yoplait yogurt contains no more than **12 grams** of added sugar per 6 ounces.
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### Borden Dairy

#### Sandy Black, Key Account Manager

- Reported that added sugar in flavored milk has been reduced to **6 grams**.
- Confirmed that Borden milk products contain **no added hormones** and **no Red Dye #3**, noting that strawberry milk is flavored but not pink in color.
- Fayette County Schools offer 1% plain milk, Fat Free Strawberry and Fat Free Chocolate.
- We also discussed the new law that would allow schools to have whole milk; however, they would only be allowed to have it for lunch.
- Ms. Wilder mentioned that serving whole milk only at lunch would be challenging for staff since we have 3 meal sessions (Breakfast, Lunch and Snack) but only allowed for lunch.

## PepsiCo

### Susan Wickizer Blank, Away From Home Sales Senior Leader

- Shared that PepsiCo's **entire K–12 product portfolio is free of artificial dyes and colors.**
  - Discussed efforts to use **natural ingredients** and transition to **alternative oils, such as olive oil, by 2027.**
  - Ms. Wilder shared the number #1 variety of chips sold in schools was the Spicy Flamas.
  - Ms. Wickizer shared that although spicy is the popular variety the sodium is still low.
  - Ms. Wickizer commented that their largest manufacturing plant in the USA is located in Perry, Georgia.
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## Triennial Assessment and Wellness Goals

### Kokeeta Wilder, Director of School Nutrition

*Assisted by Lisa Jenkins, Lead Manager of Operations*

- Reviewed the purpose and importance of the **Triennial Wellness Assessment.**
  - Discussed progress toward the district's **current wellness goals**, including:
    - Encourage employee safety and wellness through training such as **CPR** (77% progress reported).
    - Encourage staff fitness and wellness initiatives, including **discounted gym memberships** (83% progress reported)
    - Advertise the benefits of **water consumption** for students and staff (72% progress reported).
  - Presented the **wellness goals selected for the upcoming school year:**
    - Encourage and advertise the benefits of **water consumption** for students and staff.
    - Encourage **fruit and vegetable consumption** for students and staff.
    - Encourage **daily physical activity** for students through physical education and recess.
  - Ms. Wilder noted that the wellness coach feedback received in the surveys will continue to be incorporated as these goals are implemented.
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## Adjournment

- Appreciation was expressed to all presenters and attendees for their participation and support.
  - The meeting adjourned at **3:00 p.m.**
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