



**Michigan Department of Education Local School Wellness Policy
8510a North Branch Area Schools Wellness Policy**

Timeline and Team Details	
Timeframe update will occur (Month, Year – Month, Year)	North Branch Area Schools Local Wellness Committee will meet within October - May annually to update/review the School Wellness Policy.
Planned meeting frequency	Local School Wellness Committee will meet a minimum of 1-3 times per year
Designated leader(s) of the wellness policy team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kierstyn Cooper, Food Service Supervisor ● Amber White, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
LWP Team member names and relationship to the LEA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jim Fish, Superintendent of North Branch Area Schools ● Nikolas Hopp, North Branch Elementary Assistant Principal ● William Barkowska, Ruth Fox Middle School PE/Health Teacher ● Patricia Laur, District School Nurse ● Jason Cullin, Community ● Dawn Deshetsky, Parent ● Katie Green, Parent ● Morgan Lucas, Parent

Policy Development	North Branch Area Schools Local Wellness Policy was developed and implemented with representation from all buildings within the district and with input and support from the Food Service Supervisor as well as a Certified Health Teacher, PE Teacher, Community Member, Parents and District Leadership.
Policy Implementation (activities connected to the policy)	The district has implemented activities under this policy to not only address federal standards but to strengthen our policy to promote good nutrition, regular physical activity and the overall well-being of students in North Branch Area Schools. This portion of the policy outlines the district's approach to ensuring environments and opportunities for all students to practice healthy eating and physical activity behaviors throughout the school district.



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Policy Review and Update	The district’s Local Wellness Policy was reviewed & updated for amendments after a Triennial Assessment was conducted by the district’s Local Wellness Committee. The update included dialogue and careful review of the district’s policy, specifically the 2026-27 goals, actionable steps and timeline set forth in Nutrition Promotion, Nutrition Education, Physical Activity and other School-Based activities—outlined below—to promote wellness. All policy updates will come from the district’s Local Wellness Committee and will be presented to the district as well as community stakeholders. The updated policy and the Triennial Assessment will be made available on the district’s website.
LWP Content	Describe how each area will be included and who is responsible for this topic area
Nutrition Promotion	<p><u>Goal:</u> schools will engage in nutrition and physical activity promotion as well as other activities that promote student wellness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ <u>Action Steps:</u> All building administrators will incorporate “Nutrition Tidbits” from the Food Service Supervisor’s monthly bulletin into their own building newsletters as well as other communications (e.g., Family Access, Seesaw, Facebook) □ <u>Timeline:</u> Spring 2026-2029 □ <u>Lead Person:</u> Food Service Supervisor, Building principals at North Branch Elementary, Ruth Fox Middle School, North Branch High School and Quest High School
Nutrition Education	<p><u>Goal:</u> students will receive quality nutrition education that helps them develop lifelong healthy eating behaviors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ <u>Action Steps:</u> North Branch Elementary students will receive supplemental health lesson during specials; health education classes will continue at Ruth Fox Middle School and North Branch High School □ <u>Timeline:</u> Spring 2026-2029 □ <u>Lead Person:</u> North Branch Elementary P.E. Teacher, North Branch Elementary Creative Movement Teacher, Ruth Fox Middle School Health & PE Teachers and High School Health/PE Teachers
Physical Activity	<p><u>Goal:</u> students will have opportunities to engage in physical activities before and after school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ <u>Action Steps:</u> BK-8th grade students may participate in a Before-School Walking Club; North Branch Elementary students may participate in an after school running club



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ <u>Timeline</u>: The Before-School Walking Club will take place daily a half hour before school starts during spring throughout the school year; the Elementary Running Club takes place after school for 7 weeks in the Fall each school year ☐ <u>Lead Person</u>: Walking Clubs - NBE Principals & Paras, RFMS Principals & Paras; Elementary Running Club - NBE Teacher
<p>Other school-based activities that are designed to promote student wellness</p>	<p><u>Goal</u>: schools will promote the importance of eating a nutritious breakfast</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ <u>Action Steps</u>: All buildings will have “Grab & Go” breakfast bags available; advertise availability of universal breakfast option as well as National Breakfast Week in March ☐ <u>Timeline</u>: Spring 2026 - 2029 ☐ <u>Lead Person</u>: Food Service Supervisor will support these initiatives with assistance from building principals
<p>LWP Content Continued</p>	<p>Describe how each area will be included and who is responsible for this topic area</p>
<p>Standards and nutrition guidelines (Including all foods and beverages available on the school campus during the school day)</p>	<p><u>Goal</u>: school leadership will take additional steps to make sure all buildings are meeting the nutrition guidelines for all foods and beverages available on the school campus during the school day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ <u>Action Steps</u>: North Branch Leadership Team will include and hyperlink the a) Exempt Food Fundraiser Tracking Tool and b) the Compliant Competitive Food Sale Tracking Tool to the Administrative Responsibilities List; the corresponding monthly Administrative Responsibilities List will be visited at Leadership Meetings at the beginning of the year and again in January ☐ <u>Timeline</u>: Spring 2026 - 2029 ☐ <u>Lead Person</u>: Food Service Supervisor; Principals, Superintendent
<p>Policies that allow marketing or advertising of only those foods and beverages that meet the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards.</p>	<p><u>Goal</u>: all schools will ensure that “competitive” foods and beverages outside the reimbursable school meal programs that are sold to students on campus during the school day meet the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, at a minimum.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ <u>Action Steps</u>: Policy and Compliant Competitive Food Sale Tracking Tool will be reviewed at a District Leadership Meeting; policy applies in all locations and through all services where foods and beverages are sold,



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	<p>which may include, but are not limited to: á la carte options in cafeterias, vending machines, school stores and snack or food carts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ <u>Timeline</u>: Spring 2026 - 2029 ☐ <u>Lead Person</u>: Food Service Supervisor; Curriculum Director
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Plan for Measuring Implementation	Identify tools and resources that can be used for assessment
<p>What tools will be used for determining whether each school is implementing the policy as written?</p>	<p>The following tools will be utilized for determining policy implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Nutrition Promotion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Measurement</u>: Nutrition Tidbit Newsletters linked or referenced in building and/or classroom newsletters (Smores), Family Access and other building communications (e.g., Facebook, Seesaw) ☐ Nutrition Education: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Measurement</u>: Health lessons presented in PE and Creative Movement at North Branch Elementary as well as health lessons presented in Ruth Fox Middle School Health & PE and North Branch High School's Health & PE classes ☐ Physical Activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Measurement</u>: Walking Club- daily check-ins by building administration; Elementary Running Club - Number of students signed up to actively participate ☐ Other School-Based Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Measurement</u>: Monitor the number of students attending the High School Second Chance Breakfast and number of students taking "Grab & Go" breakfast bags within each building; evidence of advertising universal breakfast and National Breakfast Week in building/district communications ☐ Standards & Nutrition Guidelines:



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Measurement</u>: Administrative Meeting notes; Administrative Responsibilities List; completion of tracking tools □ Smart Snacks Marketing or Advertising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Measurement</u>: Administrative Meeting Notes
<p>What tools will be used to complete the triennial assessment?</p>	<p>The Local Wellness Committee used the following tools to complete the triennial assessment of the district's Local Wellness Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>Checklist</u> ● <u>Triennial Assessment Plan</u> ● <u>Update and Planning Outline</u> ● <u>Local Wellness Policy Sample Goals</u>



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Notes:

This document is North Branch Area Schools Local Wellness Policy and contains all the elements of the Local School Wellness Policy as required by federal guidelines.

The Local Wellness committee convened in March 2025 to examine the revised 8510 policy to check our local plan for compliance.

The Local Wellness Committee convened on January 20, 2026 and March 19, 2026 (sign-in sheet & notes available) to review, discuss and amend the District's Wellness Policy after completing the Triennial Assessment. These meetings were devoted to reviewing and updating the district's implementation plan for: Nutrition Education, Nutrition Promotion, Physical Activity, and other School-Based Activities that promote wellness. The Committee will use the MDE Local Wellness Policy Assessment to review these elements in great detail.

The Local Wellness Committee convened on March 19, 2026 to review updates made to the Local Policy based on discussion and completion of the Triennial Assessment. The Committee agreed the plan could be taken to the Board of Education.