

Local Wellness Program

The Board is committed to providing intellectually stimulating school environments that promote and protect children's health, social and emotional well-being, and ability to learn by supporting healthy eating, physical activity and other behaviors that contribute to student wellness. Good health fosters student attendance and education. Children and adolescent need access to healthful foods and opportunities to be physically active in order to grow, learn, and thrive.

To meet this commitment, the district will be guided by the following policy goals:

1. The health of our students is essential to their academic success. When faced with conflicting priorities or issues of implementation, this policy will be interpreted in a way that favors student health.
2. All students in grades P-12 will have opportunities, support, and encouragement to be physically active on a daily basis.
3. Schools will provide access to a variety of affordable, nutritious, and appealing foods that meet the health and nutrition needs of students; take into consideration the religious, ethnic, and cultural diversity of the student body in meal planning; provide clean, safe, and pleasant settings and adequate time for students to eat.
4. To the maximum extent practicable, all schools in the district will participate in available federal school meal programs.
5. The district supports a coordinated approach to school health which includes; comprehensive school health education, physical education, contracted health services, school nutrition services, counseling, psychological and social services, healthy school environment, school-site health promotion for staff, and family and community involvement.
6. The district will engage students, parents, teachers, food service professionals, health professionals, and other interested community members in developing, implementing, monitoring, and reviewing district-wide wellness policies.

Physical Activity

1. During the school day

Physical activity includes regular instructional physical education, co-curricular activities, and recess at the elementary level. Substituting any one of these components for the others is not appropriate. All students shall be encouraged to participate in regular physical activity and be provided with

appropriate opportunities for participation. All students will receive physical education that implements the state adopted physical education common curriculum goals, content standards and grade level benchmark standards for students. All students will be encouraged to further participate in physical activity through co-curricular activities and recess.

The district will encourage the integration of physical activity with the academic curriculum, based on research findings relating physical activity and learning.

Recognizing the critical importance of sufficient physical activity for students, schools will withhold recess only on an occasional basis as part of an individual or school-wide behavior plan. Physical education will not be withheld as punishment.

2. Before and After School Activities

Students will be encouraged to participate in physical activity through before- and/or after-school programs including intramurals, interscholastic athletics, and physical activity clubs. To encourage broad participation in co-curricular activities, the district will work to reduce financial barriers to participation and increase affordability through scholarships, subsidies, and other methods.

3. Parent and Community Support

Schools will encourage parents and guardians to support their student's participation in physical activity, to be physically active role models, and to include physical activity in family events.

The district will seek ways to make it safer and easier for students to walk or use other non-vehicular modes to travel to and from school. When appropriate, the district will collaborate with other community organizations on initiatives encouraging physical activity.

Nutrition Education

1. Fostering Lifelong Healthy Eating Habits

Students will receive nutrition education that is interactive and teaches the skills they need to adopt lifelong habits of healthy eating. Students will receive consistent nutrition messages throughout schools, classrooms and cafeterias.

2. Nutrition Education Curriculum

District curriculum standards and guidelines will include nutrition education. Nutrition education will be consistent with the state adopted health education common curriculum goals, content standards and grade level benchmarks for students. The aim of the curriculum will be for students to acquire knowledge and skills to understand and make healthful nutrition choices that contribute to growth and vitality and help prevent chronic disease. Nutrition education activities should be coordinated with the food service program, the core curriculum and the school health program, as appropriate, and should be enjoyable, developmentary-appropriate, culturally-relevant, and participatory.

3. Community Involvement

Schools will promote family and community involvement in nutrition, such as developing school gardens and providing students with opportunities to learn about sustainable agriculture and how food is grown in the community.

Other Activities That Support Student Wellness

Health Services

The district will strive to collaborate with county health agencies to provide access for all students, as fiscally possible.

Nutrition Standards

Decisions regarding the sale of foods in addition to the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program meals will be based on nutrition goals, not solely revenue.

1. National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs

The district's food service operations will provide nutrient-dense, tasty, food that reflects Elkton's cultural diversity, includes varied daily vegetarian options and offers a variety of fruits and vegetables. The superintendent will set nutrition standards that meet or exceed those set by the National School Breakfast and Lunch programs.

To the extent possible, the district will operate the National School Breakfast program in all schools and employ strategies that encourage participation in the program.

Recognizing the importance of sufficient time to eat and of pleasant, relaxed eating environments, schools will adopt a minimum number of minutes that students have to eat at nutrition breaks and lunch and will consider other strategies, such as recess before lunch, that contribute to healthy eating.

2. Competitive Foods

Competitive foods include a la carte, fundraising, school stores, classroom parties, foods used during classes as part of the learning process, vending machines and anything that competes with breakfast and lunch programs.

Competitive foods shall meet nutrition and portion size guidelines set by the superintendent, with input from the Wellness Advisory Committee.

Foods of minimal nutritional value, as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture shall not be distributed by staff or sold to students on school campuses during the school day

The Superintendent will develop "Healthy Snacks" and "Healthy Parties" nutrition guidelines as part of the administrative rules and provide parents with a list of examples of healthy, affordable food choices for snacks and parties.

a. Sale of Competitive Foods

The Board supports an economically self-sustaining, high quality food service program. To this end, no competitive foods that are not under the direct control of district food service operations shall be sold during the school breakfast/nutrition break and lunch service times.

(1) Fundraising/School Stores

The district encourages fundraising activities that promote physical activity and provide healthy food and beverage options. Food sold at school as a fund-raiser during the school day will meet the Healthy Snacks and Healthy Party guidelines.

(2) Vending Machines

Vending machines accessible to students on school campuses shall include only nutritious food options that meet the Healthy Snacks guidelines. The district will use strategies to promote healthy food choices such as setting lower prices for healthier options, and offering a high percentage of nutritious food options.

EXCEPTION: The High School will have up to three years to meet this provision and will use this transitional period as an opportunity for student involvement and education.

b. Distribution of Competitive Foods

(1) Celebrations

Nutritious foods are encouraged when used as part of a social or cultural event in the schools. During the school day, schools should limit the use of food at celebrations that are not related to the curriculum. Parents and staff are encouraged to provide party foods that are consistent with the Healthy Parties guidelines and to serve such items after lunch hour whenever possible.

(2) Use of Food as Incentive or Reward

The use of candy as a reward for academic performance or good behavior is strongly discouraged. Other food as an incentive, or reward, or as part of the curriculum for students should be used judiciously, taking into consideration the nutritional value of the food being served and the frequency of use.

(3) After-School Events Sponsored by district

Food offerings at concession stands operated on school campuses (such as, but not limited to, athletic events and concessions, after school programs, performances and school dances) shall include healthy options such as water, milk, 100 percent juice and nutritious foods as delineated by the Healthy Snacks guidelines

Policy Implementation

The superintendent is responsible for implementation of this Wellness Policy. To assist in this effort, the superintendent will appoint a Wellness Advisory Committee consisting of two parents, two community members including one health care or nutrition professional, two students, one administrator, one teacher, one food services employee, and one school board member. Each of the employee groups may appoint one ex-officio member. The committee will advise the superintendent on the development of administrative rules related to this policy and provide guidance on implementation of the policy. The committee will also advise the superintendent on responding to scientific findings related to student nutrition and wellness.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 332.107](#)

[OAR 581-051-0100](#)

[OAR 581-051-0310](#)

[OAR 581-051-0305](#)

[OAR 581-051-0400](#)

National School Lunch Program, 7 C.F.R. Part 210 (2006).

School Breakfast Program, 7 C.F.R. Part 220 (2006).

Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 § 204, 42 U.S.C. § 1751 (2006).