

Students

Student Wellness

BP 5030(a)

Note: The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (42 USC 1758b) mandates each district participating in the National School Lunch Program (42 USC 1751-1769) or any program in the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 USC 1771-1791), including the School Breakfast Program, to adopt a districtwide school wellness policy. The following policy fulfills this mandate and should be revised to reflect district practice. Other policies in the district's policy manual will likely contain additional provisions supporting this wellness policy, such as BP 3312 - Contracts, BP / AR 3550 - Food Service / Child Nutrition Program, BP / AR 3552 - Summer Meal Program, BP / AR 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals, BP / AR 3554 - Other Food Sales, BP / AR 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity, and BP / AR 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education.

Note: Although the Governing Board has discretion under 42 USC 1758b to determine specific policies appropriate for its schools, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is required to develop regulations that provide a framework and guidelines to assist districts in establishing their student wellness policies and to provide technical assistance through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Currently the USDA and CDC provide resources and implementation tools on their web sites. In addition, CSBA's Student Wellness: A Healthy Food and Physical Activity Policy Resource Guide summarizes research on the relationship between nutrition and physical activity and student achievement, provides worksheets for policy development, and contains other resources that may be useful in the development of the wellness policy.

The Governing Board recognizes the link between student health and learning and desires to provide a comprehensive program promoting healthy eating and physical activity for district students. The Superintendent or designee shall coordinate and align district efforts to support student wellness through health education, physical education and activity, health services, nutrition services, psychological and counseling services, and a safe and healthy school environment. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies for promoting staff wellness and for involving parents/guardians and the community in reinforcing students' understanding and appreciation of the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)
(cf. 3513.3 - Tobacco-Free Schools)
(cf. 3514 - Environmental Safety)
(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)
(cf. 5131.61 - Drug Testing)
(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)
(cf. 5131.63 - Steroids)
(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)
(cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)

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(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)
(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)
(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)
(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)

(cf. 6142.1 - Sexual Health and HIV / AIDS Prevention Education)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance / Counseling Services)

School Health Council/Committee

The Superintendent or designee shall encourage parents / guardians, students, food service employees, physical education teachers, school health professionals, Board members, school administrators, and members of the public to participate in the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the district's student wellness policy. (42 USC 1758b)

To fulfill this requirement, the Superintendent or designee may appoint a school health council or other district committee whose membership shall include representatives of these groups. He/she also may invite participation of other groups or individuals, such as health educators, curriculum directors, counselors, before- and after-school program staff, health practitioners, and / or others interested in school health issues.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)

The school health council / committee shall advise the district on health-related issues, activities, policies, and programs. At the discretion of the Superintendent or designee, the duties of the council / committee may also include the planning, implementation, and evaluation of activities to promote health within the school or community.

Goals for Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Other Wellness Activities

Note: 42 USC 1758b mandates that the district's wellness policy include goals for the activities specified below.

The Board shall adopt goals for nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that promote student wellness. (42 USC 1758b)

(cf. 0000 - Vision)
(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

The district's nutrition education and physical education programs shall be based on research, shall be consistent with the expectations established in the state's curriculum frameworks and content standards, and shall be designed to build the skills and knowledge that all students need to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)
(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)
(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)
(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

The nutrition education program shall include, but is not limited to, information about the benefits of healthy eating for learning, disease prevention, weight management, and oral health. Nutrition education shall be provided as part of the health education program and, as appropriate, shall be integrated into other academic subjects in the regular educational program, before- and after-school programs, summer learning programs, and school garden programs.

(cf. 5148.2 - Before / After School Programs)
(cf. 6177 - Summer Learning Programs)

To reinforce the district's nutrition education program, the Board prohibits the marketing and advertising of non-nutritious foods and beverages through signage, vending machine fronts, logos, scoreboards, school supplies, advertisements in school publications, coupon or incentive programs, free give-aways, or other means.

(cf. 1325 - Advertising and Promotion)

All students shall be provided opportunities to be physically active on a regular basis. Opportunities for moderate to vigorous physical activity shall be provided through physical education and recess and may also be provided through school athletic programs, extracurricular programs, before- and after-school programs, summer learning programs, programs encouraging students to walk or bicycle to and from school, in-class physical activity breaks, and other structured and unstructured activities.

(cf. 5142.2 - Safe Routes to School Program)
(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)
(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

The Board may enter into a joint use agreement or memorandum of understanding to make district facilities or grounds available for recreational or sports activities outside the school day and /or to use community facilities to expand students' access to opportunity for physical activity.

(cf. 1330.1 - Joint Use Agreements)

Professional development shall be regularly offered to health education and physical education teachers, coaches, activity supervisors, food services staff, and other staff as appropriate to enhance their health knowledge and skills.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)

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(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

The Superintendent or designee may disseminate health information and/or the district's student wellness policy to parents/guardians through district or school newsletters, handouts, parent/guardian meetings, district and school web sites, and other communications. Outreach to parents/guardians shall emphasize the relationship between student health and academic performance.

(cf. 1100 - Communication with the Public)

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

In order to ensure that students have access to comprehensive health services, the district may provide access to health services at or near district schools and/or may provide referrals to community resources.

The Board recognizes that a safe, positive school environment is also conducive to students' physical and mental health and thus prohibits bullying and harassment of all students, including bullying on the basis of weight or health condition.

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

The Superintendent or designee shall encourage staff to serve as positive role models for healthy eating and physical fitness. He/she shall promote work-site wellness programs and may provide opportunities for regular physical activity among employees.

Nutritional Guidelines for Foods Available at School

Note: 42 USC 1758b mandates that the district's wellness policy include nutritional guidelines that are consistent with federal nutrition standards, as specified below. Federal nutrition standards for the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs, as amended by 77 Fed. Reg. 17, are aligned with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Requirements for the National School Lunch Program (7 CFR 210.10) are effective July 1, 2012. Requirements for the School Breakfast Program (7 CFR 220.23) are applicable through the 2013-14 school year and then will be replaced by the requirements in 7 CFR 220.8. See AR 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program.

For all foods available on each campus during the school day, the district shall adopt nutritional guidelines which are consistent with 42 USC 1773 and 1779 and federal regulations and which support the objectives of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity. (42 USC 1758b)

In order to maximize the district's ability to provide nutritious meals and snacks, all district schools shall participate in available federal school nutrition programs, including the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs and after-school snack programs, to the extent possible. When approved by the California Department of Education, the district may sponsor a summer meal program.

(cf. 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)
(cf. 3552 - Summer Meal Program)
(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)
(cf. 5141.27 - Food Allergies/Special Dietary Needs)
(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)
(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

Note: Pursuant to 42 USC 1758, schools participating in the National School Lunch Program are required to make free drinking water available for consumption at locations where meals are served during meal service. In addition, Education Code 38086 requires all California schools to make free drinking water available during school meal times, unless the Board adopts a resolution demonstrating that the district is unable to comply due to fiscal constraints or health or safety concerns. See AR 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program for policy language related to these requirements. Also see CSBA's policy brief Increasing Access to Drinking Water in Schools for further information and sample strategies for providing water and encouraging consumption.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide access to free, potable water during meal times in the food service area in accordance with Education Code 38086 and 42 USC 1758, and shall encourage students' consumption of water by educating them about the health benefits of water and serving water in an appealing manner.

Note: Nutrition standards pertaining to food sales outside the food services program (e.g., sales through vending machines, student stores, and fundraisers) are addressed in AR 3554 - Other Food Sales. Pursuant to 42 USC 1758b, the USDA is required to establish nutrition standards for all foods sold and served in school at any time during the school day, although exemptions may be allowed for school-sponsored fundraisers if the fundraisers are approved by the school and are infrequent. Districts will be required to implement the standards beginning one school year following the approval of the federal rule.

The Board believes that all foods and beverages sold to students at district schools, including those available outside the district's food services program, should support the health curriculum and promote optimal health. Nutritional standards adopted by the district for foods and beverages provided through student stores, vending machines, or other venues shall meet or exceed state and federal nutritional standards.

(cf. 3312 - Contracts)
(cf. 3554 - Other Food Sales)

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The Superintendent or designee shall encourage school organizations to use healthy food items or non-food items for fundraising purposes. He/she also shall encourage school staff to avoid the use of non-nutritious foods as a reward for students' academic performance, accomplishments, or classroom behavior.

(cf. 1230 - School-Connected Organizations)

School staff shall encourage parents/guardians or other volunteers to support the district's nutrition education program by considering nutritional quality when selecting any snacks which they may donate for occasional class parties. Class parties or celebrations shall be held after the lunch period when possible.

Program Implementation and Evaluation

The Superintendent shall designate one or more district or school employees, as appropriate, to ensure that each school site complies with this policy. (42 USC 1758b) (cf. 0500 - Accountability) (cf. 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance)

Note: 42 USC 1758b requires periodic assessment of the implementation of the wellness policy, but does not define any specific timeline. CSBA's publication Monitoring for Success: A Guide for Assessing and Strengthening Student Wellness Policies recommends that a report on the implementation of the wellness policy be provided to the Board at least once every two years. The following optional paragraph may be revised to reflect district practice.

The Superintendent or designee shall assess the implementation and effectiveness of this policy at least once every two years.

Note: 42 USC 1758b requires that the district assessment include a comparison of the district's policy with model wellness policies. See the USDA's web site for model policies and best practices recommended by federal and state agencies and nongovernmental organizations.

The assessment shall include the extent to which district schools are in compliance with this policy, the extent to which this policy compares to model wellness policies available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and a description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy. (42 USC 1758b)

The Board and the Superintendent or designee shall establish indicators that will be used to measure the implementation and effectiveness of the district activities related to student wellness. Such indicators may include, but are not limited to:

1. Descriptions of the district's nutrition education, physical education, and health education curricula and the extent to which they align with state academic content standards and legal requirements

2. An analysis of the nutritional content of school meals and snacks served in all district programs, based on a sample of menus and production records
3. Student participation rates in all school meal and/or snack programs, including the number of students enrolled in the free and reduced-price meals program compared to the number of students eligible for that program
4. Extent to which foods sold on campus outside the food services program, such as through vending machines, student stores, or fundraisers, comply with nutritional standards
5. Results of the state's physical fitness test at applicable grade levels
6. Number of minutes of physical education offered at each grade span, and the estimated percentage of class time spent in moderate to vigorous physical activity
7. A description of district efforts to provide additional opportunities for physical activity outside of the physical education program
8. A description of other districtwide or school-based wellness activities offered, including the number of sites and/or students participating, as appropriate

The Superintendent or designee shall invite feedback on district and school wellness activities from food service personnel, school administrators, the school health council, parents/guardians, students, teachers, before- and after-school program staff, and/or other appropriate persons.

As feasible, the assessment report may include a comparison of results across multiple years, a comparison of district data with county, statewide, or national data, and/or a comparison of wellness data with other student outcomes such as academic indicators or student discipline rates.

The Superintendent or designee shall inform and update the public, including parents/guardians, students, and others in the community, about the content and implementation of this policy and assessment results. (42 USC 1758b)

In addition, the assessment results shall be submitted to the Board for the purposes of evaluating policy and practice, recognizing accomplishments, and making policy adjustments as needed to focus district resources and efforts on actions that are most likely to make a positive impact on student health and achievement.

Posting Requirements

Each school shall post the district's policies and regulations on nutrition and physical activity in public view within all school cafeterias or in other central eating areas. (Education Code 49432)

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Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33350-33354 CDE responsibilities re: physical education
49430-49436 Pupil Nutrition, Health, and Achievement Act of 2001
49490-49494 School breakfast and lunch programs
49500-49505 School meals
49510-49520 Nutrition
49530-49536 Child Nutrition Act
49540-49546 Child care food program
49547-49548.3 Comprehensive nutrition services
49550-49561 Meals for needy students
49565-49565.8 California Fresh Start pilot program
49570 National School Lunch Act
51210 Course of study, grades 1-6
51220 Course of study, grades 7-12
51222 Physical education
51223 Physical education, elementary schools
51795-51796.5 School instructional gardens
51880-51921 Comprehensive health education
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
15500-15501 Food sales by student organizations
15510 Mandatory meals for needy students
15530-15535 Nutrition education
15550-15565 School lunch and breakfast programs
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
1751-1769 National School Lunch Program, especially:
1758b Local wellness policy
1771-1791 Child Nutrition Act, especially:
1773 School Breakfast Program
1779 Rules and regulations, Child Nutrition Act
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 7
210.1-210.31 National School Lunch Program
220.1-220.23 National School Breakfast Program
COURT DECISIONS
Frazer v. Dixon Unified School District, (1993) 18 Cal.App.4th 781

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Increasing Access to Drinking Water in Schools, Policy Brief, March 2013
Monitoring for Success: A Guide for Assessing and Strengthening Student Wellness Policies, rev. 2012
Nutrition Standards for Schools: Implications for Student Wellness, Policy Brief, rev. April 2012
Student Wellness: A Healthy Food and Physical Activity Policy Resource Guide, rev. 2012
Building Healthy Communities: A School Leader's Guide to Collaboration and
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Community Engagement, 2009

Safe Routes to School: Program and Policy Strategies for School Districts, Policy Brief, 2009

Physical Education and California Schools, Policy Brief, rev. October 2007

School-Based Marketing of Foods and Beverages: Policy Implications for School Boards, Policy Brief, March 2006

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Physical Education Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2009

Health Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2003

CALIFORNIA PROJECT LEAN PUBLICATIONS

Policy in Action: A Guide to Implementing Your Local School Wellness Policy, October 2006

CENTER FOR COLLABORATIVE SOLUTIONS

Changing Lives, Saving Lives: A Step-by-Step Guide to Developing Exemplary Practices in Healthy Eating, Physical Activity and Food Security in Afterschool Programs, March 2010

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION PUBLICATIONS

School Health Index for Physical Activity and Healthy Eating: A Self-Assessment and Planning Guide, 2005

FEDERAL REGISTER

Rules and Regulations, January 26, 2012, Vol. 77, Number 17, pages 4088-4167

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE BOARDS OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Fit, Healthy and Ready to Learn, 2000

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PUBLICATIONS

Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2005

Changing the Scene, Improving the School Nutrition Environment: A Guide to Local Action, 2000

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

Action for Healthy Kids: <http://www.actionforhealthykids.org>

California Department of Education, Nutrition Services Division:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu>

California Department of Public Health: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov>

California Healthy Kids Resource Center: <http://www.californiahealthykids.org>

California Project LEAN (Leaders Encouraging Activity and Nutrition):

<http://www.californiaprojectlean.org>

California School Nutrition Association: <http://www.calsna.org>

Center for Collaborative Solutions: <http://www.ccscenter.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>

Dairy Council of California: <http://www.dairycouncilofca.org>

National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity:

<http://www.cspinet.org/nutritionpolicy/nana.html>

National Association of State Boards of Education: <http://www.nasbe.org>

School Nutrition Association: <http://www.schoolnutrition.org>

Society for Nutrition Education: <http://www.sne.org>

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Nutrition Service, wellness policy:
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/Healthy/wellnesspolicy.html>