

SCHOOL DISTRICT WELLNESS PROGRAM

The School Committee recognizes the relationship between student well-being and student achievement as well as the importance of a comprehensive district wellness program. Therefore, the school district will provide developmentally appropriate and sequential nutrition and physical education as well as opportunities for physical activity. The wellness program will be implemented in a multidisciplinary fashion and will be evidence based.

Wellness Committee

The school district will establish a wellness committee that consists of at least one (1): parent, student, nurse, school food service representative, School Committee member, school administrator, member of the public, and other community members as appropriate. If available, a qualified, credentialed nutrition professional will be a member of the wellness committee. The school committee designates the following individual(s) as wellness program coordinator(s): Michael Cozort, Superintendent of Schools. Only employees of the district who are members of the wellness committee may serve as wellness program coordinators. Wellness coordinators, in consultation with the wellness committee, will be in charge of implementation and evaluation of this policy.

Physical Education

The school district will provide physical education training aligned with the standards established by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The following list contains goals of our school district:

- Schools work with the community to create ways for students to walk, bike, rollerblade or skateboard safely to and from school.
- Students are given opportunities for physical activity during the school day through physical education (PE) classes, daily recess periods for elementary school students, and the integration of physical activity into the academic curriculum where appropriate.
- Students are given opportunities for physical activity through a range of before- and/or after-school programs including, but not limited to, intramurals, interscholastic athletics, and physical activity clubs.
- Schools provide training to enable staff to promote enjoyable, lifelong physical activity among students.
- Schools encourage parents and guardians to support their children's participation in physical activity, to be physically active role models, and to include physical activity in family events.

Nutrition Education

The school district will provide nutrition education aligned with standards established by the USDA's National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program in all grades. The following list contains goals of our school district:

- Nutrition education is offered in the school cafeteria as well as in the classroom, with coordination between the foodservice staff and other school personnel, including teachers.
- Students receive consistent nutrition messages from all aspects of the school program.
- Nutrition is integrated into the health education or core curricula (e.g., math, science, language arts).
- Staff who provide nutrition education have appropriate training.
- The level of student participation in the school breakfast and school lunch programs is appropriate.

Nutrition Guidelines

It is the policy of the school district that all foods and beverages made available on campus during the school day are consistent with School Lunch Program nutrition guidelines. Guidelines for reimbursable school meals will not be less restrictive than regulations and guidance issued by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to law. The district will create procedures that address all foods available to students throughout the school day in the following areas:

- A. Guidelines for maximizing nutritional value by decreasing fat and added sugars, increasing nutrition density and moderating portion size of each individual food or beverage sold within the school environment;
- B. Separate guidelines for foods and beverages in the following categories:
 - 1) foods and beverages included in a la carte sales in the food service program on school campuses;
 - 2) foods and beverages sold in vending machines, snack bars, school stores, and concession stands;
 - 3) foods and beverages sold as part of school-sponsored fundraising activities; and
 - 4) refreshments served at parties, celebrations, and meetings during the school day; and
 - 5) specify that its guidelines will be based on nutrition goals, not profit motives.

Other School-Based Activities

The wellness program coordinator, in consultation with the wellness committee, is charged with developing procedures addressing other school-based activities to promote wellness.

- An adequate amount of time is allowed for students to eat meals in adequate lunchroom facilities.
- Environmentally-friendly practices such as the use of locally grown and seasonal foods, school gardens, and non-disposable tableware have been considered and implemented where appropriate.
- Physical activities and/or nutrition services or programs designed to benefit staff health have been considered and, to the extent practical, implemented.

Evaluation

The wellness committee will assess all education curricula and materials pertaining to wellness for accuracy, completeness, balance and consistency with the state and district's educational goals and standards. Wellness program coordinators shall be responsible for devising a plan for implementation and evaluation of the district wellness policy and are charged with operational responsibility for ensuring that schools meet the goals of the district wellness policy. Wellness program coordinators will report to the School Committee annually.

SOURCE: MASC

LEGAL REFS.: The Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004, Section 204,
P.L. 108 -265
The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1751 - 1769h
The Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1771 - 1789
M.G.L. 111:223
105 CMR 201

CROSS REFS.: [EFC](#), Free and Reduced-Cost Food Services
[IHAMA](#), Teaching About Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs
[KI](#), Public Solicitations/Advertising in District Facilities