

September 28, 2026

To: Dr. Josh Swanson, Superintendent
From: Jason Mutzenberger, Executive Director of Business Services
Re: Policy 533 Updates

During the 2025-26 school year, the district conducted a self-assessment of Policy 533 using the Wellness School Assessment Tool (WellSAT). WellSAT is a national recognized tool designed to help school districts assess and strengthen their local school wellness policies and is recommended by the Minnesota Department of Education as a resource in evaluating wellness policy language.

WellSAT provides two scores:

- **Comprehensiveness** – measures the extent to which recommended wellness content areas are addressed within the policy.
- **Strength** – measures how strongly and specifically the policy language communicates expectations and requirements.

Both scores range from 0–100, with lower scores indicating less comprehensive content and weaker policy language.

The district's initial assessment resulted in a strength score of 11 and a comprehensiveness score of 40. For comparison, the national averages are 33 for strength and 54 for comprehensiveness.

These results do not reflect the district's desired level of strength or comprehensiveness for its wellness policy. As a result, we are bringing forward an initial set of revisions that better reflect practices already occurring within district programs and operations.

With the proposed language incorporated, the district's WellSAT scores improve significantly:

- Strength: 11 → 50
- Comprehensiveness: 40 → 66

These proposed revisions represent the first step in an ongoing effort to strengthen Policy 533. The next phase will include engaging the district's Wellness Committee to review the policy, research additional best practices, and recommend opportunities for stronger language and practices.

We anticipate bringing forward another revision to Policy 533 in early 2027 as this work continues. Administration recommends approval of the proposed changes to Policy 533 – Wellness, as presented.