

Morrow County School District

Code: EFA
1st Reading: 11/14/22
Adopted:

Local Wellness Program

The district is committed to the optimal development of every student and believes that a positive, safe and health-promoting learning environment is necessary for students to have the opportunity to achieve personal, academic, developmental and social success.

To help ensure students possess the knowledge and skills necessary to make healthy choices for a lifetime, the superintendent shall prepare and implement a comprehensive district nutrition program consistent with state and federal requirements for districts sponsoring the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and/or the School Breakfast Program (SBP). The program shall reflect the Board's commitment to providing adequate time for instruction that fosters healthy eating through nutrition education and promotion, serving healthy and appealing foods at district schools, developing food-use guidelines for staff and establishing liaisons with nutrition service providers, as appropriate.

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Implementation

The district shall manage and coordinate the implementation of this local wellness policy.

Implementation will consist of, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Delineating roles, responsibilities, actions and timelines specific to each school;
2. Generating and disseminating information about who will be responsible to make what change, by how much, where and when;
3. Establishing standards for all foods and beverages provided (but not sold) to students during the school day on participating school campuses;
4. Establishing standards and nutrition guidelines for all foods and beverages sold to students during the school day on participating school campuses that meet state and federal nutrition standards for NSLP and SBP, competitive foods, permit marketing of same that meets the competitive food nutrition standards, and promotes student health and reduces child obesity; and
5. Establishing specific goals for nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, physical education and other school-based activities that promote student wellness.

The Board designates the principals to be responsible for ensuring each school meets the goals outlined and complies with this policy.

Record Keeping

The district will retain the following records to document compliance with the local wellness policy requirements at the district's administrative offices:

1. The written local wellness policy;
2. Documentation to demonstrate the policy has been made available to the public;
3. Documentation of efforts to review and update the local wellness policy, including an indication of who participates in the update and the methods the district uses to make stakeholders aware of their ability to participate;
4. Documentation to demonstrate compliance with the annual public notification requirements;
5. Documentation of the district's most recent assessment on the implementation of the local wellness policy;
6. Documentation to demonstrate the most recent assessment on the implementation of the local wellness policy has been made available to the public.

Notification of Policy

The district will inform the public about the content and implementation of the local wellness policy, and post the policy and any updates to the policy on the district website annually. Included will be, if available, the most recent assessment of the implementation, and a description of the progress being made in attaining the goals of the policy.

The district will publicize the name and contact information of the district or school official(s) leading and coordinating the policy and information on how the public can get involved with the local wellness policy. This information will be published on the district's website and in district communications.

Triennial Progress Assessments

At least once every three years, the district will evaluate the implementation of this policy and its progress with a triennial assessment and produce a progress report that will include:

1. The extent to which schools under the jurisdiction of the district are in compliance with the policy;
2. The extent to which the district's policy compares to model local school wellness policy; and
3. A description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the district's policy.

The district will publish the triennial progress report on the district website when available. The district will update or modify the policy based on results of the triennial assessment.

Community Involvement, Outreach and Communications (Review of, and Updating Policy)

The district will actively communicate ways in which the community can participate in the development, implementation and periodic review and update of the local wellness policy. The district will communicate information about opportunities on the district's website, on school websites, and/or in district or school communications. The district will ensure that communications are culturally and linguistically appropriate to the community.

Parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, the Board, school administrators, and the general public will be solicited to participate in the periodic review and update of the local school wellness policy.

NUTRITION PROMOTION AND NUTRITION EDUCATION

Nutrition promotion and nutrition education positively influence lifelong eating behaviors by using evidence-based strategies and techniques and nutrition messages and by creating food environments that support healthy nutrition choices.

To promote nutrition education in the schools, the principal is responsible for ensuring the following goals are implemented:

1. Students and staff will receive consistent nutrition messages throughout the school environment;
2. Nutrition education is provided throughout the student's school years as part of the district's age-appropriate, comprehensive nutrition program[(which includes the benefits of healthy eating, essential nutrients, nutritional deficiencies, principles of healthy weight management, the use and misuse of dietary supplements, safe food preparation, and handling and storage related to food and eating)], and is aligned and coordinated with the Oregon Health Education Standards and school health education programs;
3. Nutrition education will include culturally relevant, participatory activities that include social learning strategies and activities that are aligned and coordinated with the Oregon Health Education Standards and school health education programs;
4. Parents and families are encouraged through school communications to send healthy snacks/meals and reusable water bottles with their student to school;
5. Families and community organizations are involved, to the extent practicable, in nutrition education;
6. Materials on how to assess one's personal eating habits, set goals for improvement and achieve those goals.

Nutrition promotion, including marketing and advertising nutritious foods and beverages to students, will be implemented consistently through a comprehensive and multi-channel approach, (e.g., in the classroom, cafeteria and at home) by staff, teachers, parents, students and the community.

To ensure adequate nutrition promotion, the following goals will be implemented:

1. Information about available meal programs is distributed prior to or at the beginning of the school year and at other times throughout the school year;
2. Information about availability and location of a Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is distributed;
3. Nutrition promotion materials are sent home with students, published on the district website, and distributed at parent-teacher conferences;
4. Families are invited to attend exhibitions of student nutrition projects or health fairs;

School Meals

All schools within the district participate in U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) child nutrition programs, administered through the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), including the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), the School Breakfast Program (SBP) Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), Supper programs.

The district's available meal program(s) will operate to meet meal pattern requirements and dietary specifications in accordance with the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act and applicable federal laws and regulations.

The principals will support nutrition and food services operation as addressed in Board policy EFAA – District Nutrition and Food Services and its accompanying administrative regulation EFAA-AR – Reimbursable Meals and Milk Programs.

Water

Free, safe, unflavored, drinking water will be available to all students throughout the school day and throughout every school campus. The district will make drinking water available where school meals are served during mealtimes.

Competitive Foods and Beverages

The district controls the sale of all competitive foods. All foods and beverages outside the reimbursable school meal programs that are **sold** to students on the school campus during the school day will meet or exceed Smart Snacks Standards¹. These standards will apply in all locations and through all services where foods and beverages are sold, which may include, but are not limited to, à la carte options in cafeterias, vending machines, school stores, snack or food carts and fund raising.

Celebrations and Rewards/Incentives

All foods and beverages offered on the school campus are encouraged to meet the nutrition standards set by the USDA and the Oregon Smart Snacks Standards. This includes, but is not limited to, celebrations, parties, and classroom snacks brought by parents. This information will be conveyed to staff and parents.

Fund Raising

Foods and beverages that meet or exceed the nutrition standards set by the USDA and the Oregon Smart Snacks Standards may be sold through fund raisers on the school campus during the school day. Such requests to conduct a fund raiser will be submitted to the principal for approval before starting.

Food and Beverage Marketing in Schools

Any foods and beverages marketed or promoted to students on the school campus during the school day will meet or exceed the nutrition standards for competitive foods set by the USDA.

“Food and beverage marketing” is defined as advertising and other promotion in schools. Food and beverage marketing often includes an oral, written or graphic statement made for the purpose of promoting the sale of a food or beverage product made by the producer, manufacturer, seller or any other entity with a commercial interest in the product.

¹ Oregon Department of Education, [Oregon Smart Snacks Standards](#)

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

A quality physical education program is an essential component for all students to learn about and participate in physical activity. The district will develop and assess student performance standards and program minute requirements in order to meet ODE's physical education content standards and state law.

Physical activity should be included in the school's daily education program for grades K through 12 and include regular, instructional physical education, as well as co-curricular activities and recess.

In order to ensure students are afforded the opportunity to engage in physical education and physical activity in the school setting, the following goals are established:

1. Physical education will be a course of study that focuses on students' physical literacy and development of motor skills;
2. Instruction, provided by adequately prepared teachers, i.e., licensed or endorsed to teach physical education, will meet the state adopted academic content standards for physical education (Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 329.045). Teachers of physical education shall regularly participate in professional development activities annually;
3. Physical activity will be integrated across curricula and throughout the school day.
4. Physical activity during the school day (including, but not limited to, recess, classroom physical activity breaks or physical education).

Other Activities that Promote Student Wellness

The district will integrate wellness activities throughout the entire school environment (districtwide). The district will coordinate and integrate other initiatives related to physical activity, physical education, nutrition and other wellness components so all efforts are complementary, not duplicated and work toward the same set of goals promoting student well-being, optimal development and strong educational outcomes.

The district will provide the following activities and encourage the following practices which promote local wellness:

1. Safe Routes to Schools Program;
2. Physically active family and community engagement activities for families to learn about healthy eating or to practice being active together (e.g., skate night, fun run, dance night);
3. Nonfood-related fund raisers;
4. Physical activity energizers during transitions from one subject to another;
5. Intramural sports;
6. Use of alternates to food as rewards in the classroom;
7. Integration of social, emotional and mental health supports into school programs (e.g., promote a positive school climate where respect is encouraged and students can seek help from trusted adults);

8. Communication between classroom teachers and nutrition staff, so that menus and nutrition promotion can be tied into classroom learning and coursework;
9. Include wellness as a standing agenda item for school-based meetings (e.g., staff meetings, site council meetings, PTO).]

Employee Wellness

The district encourages staff to pursue a healthy lifestyle that contributes to their improved health status, improved morale and a greater personal commitment to the school's overall wellness program. Many actions and conditions that affect the health of staff may also influence the health and learning of students. The physical and mental health of staff is integral to promoting and protecting the health of students and helps foster their academic success.

DEFINITIONS

1. "Competitive food" means all food and beverages other than meals reimbursed under programs authorized by the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act available for sale to students on the school campus during the school day.
2. "Food and beverage marketing²" is defined as advertising and other promotion in schools. Food and beverage marketing often includes an oral, written or graphic statement made for the purpose of promoting the sale of a food or beverage product made by the producer, manufacturer, seller or any other entity with a commercial interest in the product.
3. "Oregon Smart Snacks Standards"³ means the State's minimum nutrition standards for competitive foods and beverages (ORS 336.423).
4. "School day" means, for the purpose of competitive food standards implementation, the period from the midnight before, to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day[, i.e., at the conclusion of afternoon student activities, such as athletic, music or drama practices, clubs, academic support and enrichment activities].
5. "School campus" means, for the purpose of competitive food standards implementation, all areas of property under the jurisdiction of the school that are accessible to students during the school day.]

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[OAR 581-051-0400](#)

² This term includes, but is not limited to: brand names, trademarks, logos or tags, except when placed on a physically present food or beverage product; brand names, trademarks, logos or tags, except when placed on a physically present food or beverage product; logo, name or trademark on school equipment; signs, marquee, message boards, scoreboards or backboards (Note: Immediate replacement of these items is not required, however, districts will replace or update scoreboards or other durable equipment when existing contracts are up for renewal or to the extent that is financially possible over time so that items are in compliance.); corporate brand, logo, name or trademark on cups used for beverage dispensing, menu boards, coolers, trash cans and other food service equipment; as well as on posters, book covers, student assignment books or school supplies displayed, distributed, offered or sold by the district; school publications or school mailings; free product samples, taste tests or coupons of a product, or free samples displaying advertising of a product.

³ Oregon Department of Education, [Oregon Standards](#), [OAR 581-051-0306](#), [OAR 581-051-0310](#)

Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, 42 U.S.C. §1758b (2018).
National School Lunch Program, 7 C.F.R. Part 210 (2022).
School Breakfast Program, 7 C.F.R. Part 220 (2022).