

STUDENT NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

~~NOTE: This policy is intended to provide a framework for developing a legally compliant wellness policy. The policy adopted by your school board must be developed with the involvement of the identified advisory group discussed in Section A.~~

The School Board recognizes that schools are in a position to promote healthy lifestyle choices by students that can affect their lifelong wellness. Therefore, the School District will provide environments that promote and protect children’s health, well-being, and ability to learn by supporting healthy eating and physical activity. This policy is a general statement of our goals, standards, and regulations which we shall use to achieve a successful outcome to our wellness policy. Schools will provide nutrition education and physical education to foster lifelong habits of healthy eating and physical activity, and will establish linkages between nutrition education and school meal programs.

(cf. 1020 – Youth Services)

A. Planning and Periodic Review by Stakeholders

The school district and/or individual schools within the district will create or work with an appropriate existing advisory group that will assist in developing, implementing, monitoring, reviewing and, as necessary, revising school nutrition and physical activity goals. ~~The advisory group should be composed of students, parents, food service personnel, school board, school administration, (teachers, health professionals,) and other interested community members.~~

The school district will permit and encourage the participation of students, parents, food service personnel, Board members, school administrators, school health professionals, physical education teachers, and other interested community members in the advisory group. In order to allow participation of school staff and faculty, the superintendent may approve release time or extra responsibility pay for select food service personnel, school health professionals, and physical education teachers. The district will promote opportunities to participate in the advisory group through parent and stakeholder communication, which may include: newsletters, public announcements, web-postings, parent communication, etc.

The advisory group should be provided with appropriate information and clear guidelines to assist in the development and/or revision of relevant policies. and nutrition and physical activity goals. Goals will be based on available scientific evidence for improving school nutrition and physical

activity programs. Goals and progress toward achievement will be presented to the Board starting with the presentation of goals within six (6) months of the passage of this policy and continuing annually thereafter.

(cf. 1000 – Concepts and Roles)

B. Nutrition

All foods available in district schools during the school day shall be offered to students with consideration for promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity.

All foods and beverages provided through the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs shall ~~comply with federal nutrition standards under the School Meals Initiative.~~ meet nutritional requirements of National School Lunch Act. (7 C.F.R. Parts 210 and 220). To the maximum extent practicable, all schools in the district will participate in available federal school meal programs.

Students

BP 5040(b)

STUDENT NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (continued)

All other foods and beverages made available on campus (including, but not limited to vending, concessions, a la carte, student stores and fundraising) during the school, day between the hours of 12:00 AM and 30 minutes after the conclusion of the instructional day, will be consistent with nutrition standards developed by the superintendent designees in administrative regulations based on U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans. shall meet nutritional requirements of the National School Lunch Act, Nutritional Guidelines for All Foods Sold in Schools also known as Smart Snacks at School (Federal Register/Vol. 78, No. 125).

If selling foods or beverages that do not meet the Smart Snacks criteria (more than 30 minutes after the end of the school day), the sale price of those items will be higher than those meeting the Smart Snacks criteria. For the purpose of this policy, the school campus is defined as all property under the jurisdiction of the school district that is accessible to students. Classroom parties are encouraged to meet the smart snack standards and at minimum will offer a healthy alternative. The Superintendent or designee may apply for a waiver from the EED for a variance on food and beverages sold for fundraising to be exempt from Smart Snack Standards.

Carbonated beverages shall not be allowed on the elementary or middle school campus during school hours. Students in pre-K through 8th grade are prohibited from bringing or consuming beverages that do not meet the Smart Snacks at School beverage criteria on the elementary or middle school campus during school hours.

Schools will provide students with access to a variety of nutritious and

appealing foods that meet the health and nutrition needs of students; will accommodate, as much as possible, the religious, ethnic, and cultural diversity of the student body in meal planning; and will provide clean, safe and pleasant settings and adequate time for students to eat.

Traditional cultural foods may be exempted from the nutritional requirements when offered free of charge and for educational purposes. Traditional cultural foods offered as a part of the school breakfast or lunch program must meet nutritional requirements.

Foods and beverages will not be offered as a reward for students' performance or behavior.

Schools will provide free potable water in the place where meals are served and elsewhere throughout the school buildings.

When practicable, Alaska farm and fish products will be utilized in meals and snacks.

Schools will encourage all students to participate in federal school meal programs and protect the identity of students who eat free and reduced priced meals.

Schools will encourage all students to eat healthy and nutritious meals within the school dining environment and will, to the extent practicable, involve students in menu planning.

Schools will place fruits and vegetables where they are easy to access (such as near the cafeteria cashier). Schools are encouraged to utilize other behavioral economic strategies such as the USDA Smarter Lunchroom techniques to improve consumption of healthier foods and discourage waste.

To the extent practicable, schools will schedule lunch as close to the middle of the school day as possible. Schools are encouraged to provide opportunities for mid-morning or mid-afternoon healthy snack breaks.

Schools will limit food and beverage marketing on campus to the promotion of foods and beverages that meet the National School Lunch Act, Nutritional Guidelines for All Foods Sold in Schools.

~~Health curricula will include instruction on the benefits of good nutrition and the role nutrition plays in preventing chronic diseases and maintaining a healthy weight.~~

Schools will work to provide age-appropriate nutrition education as part of the health and physical education curricula that respects the cultural

practices of students, is integrated into core subjects, and provides opportunities for students to practice skills and apply knowledge both inside and outside the school setting. The District will seek to provide evidence-based nutrition education curricula that foster lifelong healthy eating behaviors integrated into comprehensive school health education. **To the extent practicable:**

- (a) Students in grades pre-K-12 shall receive nutrition education that teaches the skills needed to adopt lifelong healthy eating behaviors and incorporates resources and materials from the USDA, Food and Nutrition Services, Team Nutrition.
- (b) Classroom nutrition education shall be reinforced in the school dining room or cafeteria setting as well as in the classroom, with coordination among the nutrition service staff, administrators and teachers.
- (c) Students shall receive consistent nutrition messages from schools and the district. This includes in classrooms, cafeterias, outreach programs and other school-based activities.
- (d) Nutrition education shall be taught by a certified/licensed teacher.
- (e) Schools will make available to students information on the caloric, sodium and other nutritional content (such as fat, nutrients, and sugars) of pre-packaged foods and beverages available for purchase at school.

(cf. 0210 – Goals for Student Learning)

(cf. 3550 – Food Service)

(cf. 3551 – Food Service Operations)

(cf. 3552 – Regular Lunch Program)

(cf. 3553 – Free and Reduced Price Meals)

(cf. 3554 – Other Food Sales)

C. Physical Education

Physical education will be closely coordinated with the overall school health program, especially health education so that students thoroughly understand the benefits of being physically active and master the self-management skills needed to stay active for a lifetime.

To the extent practicable, all schools will provide daily physical education opportunities for all students. All elementary students will be provided at least **90 minutes** (determined by district capacity) of physical education per week, for the entire school year.

Middle and high school students shall have the opportunity for at least **200 minutes** (determined by district capacity) of physical education per week, for the entire school year.

All elementary and middle-school students will have the opportunity to participate in physical education for all years of enrollment in school. All high school students shall be required to participate in physical education for one full year. Physical education shall be exclusive of health education and shall be available for all four years of high school.

At least 50% of physical education class time should be spent in moderate to vigorous physical activity.

The district will adopt a physical education curriculum that aligns with the Alaska State Standards for Physical Education for grades K-12, with grade level benchmarks. The curriculum shall be reviewed in accordance with the regular curriculum review and adoption schedule of the District. Student achievement shall be assessed based on physical education standards, and a written physical education grade shall be reported for students according to the grading schedule of the District. A fitness assessment may be performed using a valid and reliable tool and used to track student progress. Waivers, exemptions, substitutions, and/or pass-fail options for physical education are prohibited. Accommodations will be made for those with medical, cultural, or religious considerations. To the extent practicable, physical education shall be taught by a certified/endorsed physical education teacher. Physical education teachers shall receive annual professional development specific to physical education content.

Physical education equipment shall be age- appropriate, inviting, and available in sufficient quantities for all students to be able to participate. Equipment shall be inspected regularly for safety and replaced when needed.

C. D. Physical Activity

All students in grades K-12 will have opportunities, support and encouragement to be physically active before, during and after school, each school day. Health curricula will include instruction on the benefits of regular physical activity and the role physical activity plays in preventing chronic diseases and maintaining a healthy weight.

All students in grades kindergarten through eight shall be provided opportunities for at least 90 percent of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended minutes of daily physical activity for each full school day.

Whenever possible, all students shall be given opportunities for physical activity through a range of programs including, but not limited to, intramurals, interscholastic athletics and physical activity clubs.

Elementary students must be provided at least 15 minutes each day of active recess. Classroom based physical activity is encouraged and counts toward the 45-minute requirement.

When practicable, recess is encouraged to be scheduled before lunch periods and may take place outdoors.

Indoor and outdoor facilities shall be available so that physical activity is safe and not dependent on the weather. Physical activity equipment shall be age- appropriate, inviting, and available in sufficient quantities for all students to be active. Equipment shall be inspected regularly for safety and replaced when needed.

Using physical activity as punishment or withholding recess /physical education time for behavior management shall be prohibited.

The district/school will promote strategies/events designed to generate interest in and support active transport to school (walking school busses, 'bicycle trains', Walk/Bike to School Day, Safe Routes to School Programs).

Schools are encouraged to keep school spaces and facilities available to students, staff, and community members before, during, and after the school day, on weekends, and during school vacations.

(cf. 1330 – Community use of school facilities)

Ð. E. Communication with Parents

The district/school will regularly, at least annually, inform and update the public, including students, parents, and the community, about the content, implementation of, and progress toward goals in this policy. Parents will be actively notified through email or other notification processes and provided access to this policy and all subsequent reports and updates.

The district/school will support parents' efforts to provide a healthy diet and daily physical activity for their children. The district/school will send home nutrition information and/or will post nutrition tips on school websites. Schools will encourage parents to pack healthy lunches and snacks and to refrain from including beverages and foods that do not meet nutrition standards. The district will provide parents and the public with information on healthy foods that meet the requirements of the National School Lunch Act, Nutritional Guidelines for All Foods Sold in Schools also known as Smart Snacks at School (USDA) standards and ideas for policy compliant foods for vending, concessions, a la carte, student stores, classroom parties and fundraising activities (Federal Register/Vol. 78, No. 125). Schools will make available to families' information on the caloric, sodium and other nutritional content (such as fat, nutrients, sugars) of foods and beverages available for purchase at school.

The district/school will provide information about physical education and other school-based physical activity opportunities before, during and after the school day; and support parents' efforts to provide their children with opportunities to be physically active outside of school. Such supports will include sharing information through a website, newsletter, or other take-home materials, special events, or physical education homework.

(cf. 6020 – Parent Involvement)

Students

BP 5040(c)

STUDENT NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (continued)

E. F. Monitoring, Compliance and Evaluation

The superintendent or designee will ensure compliance with established district-wide nutrition and physical activity wellness policies and administrative regulations. Administrative regulations ~~will~~ may be developed to ensure that information will be gathered to assist the Board and district in evaluating implementation of these policies and to ensure that necessary documentation is maintained in preparation for the triennial administrative review conducted by Child Nutrition Programs, Department of Education & Early Development.

The Superintendent or designee will designate one or more persons to be responsible for ensuring that each school within the district complies with this policy, and that school activities, including fundraisers and celebrations, are consistent with district nutrition and physical activity goals.

The school board will receive an annual summary report on district-wide compliance with the established nutrition and physical activity policies, and the progress made in attaining the district nutrition and physical activity goals, based on input from the schools within the district. The report will also be distributed to advisory councils, parent/teacher organizations, school principals, ~~and~~ school health services personnel in the district, and will be made available to the public.

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES
03.20.100 Farm-to-school program

UNITED STATES CODE
Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C 1751 et.seq

Child Nutrition Act of 1996, 42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS

7 C.F.R. Parts 210 and 220, National School Lunch Program and Breakfast Program

FEDERAL REGISTER

Vol. 78, No. 125, Part II, Department of Agriculture

Adopted 10/15