Administrative Procedure ADF-AP(1): DISTRICT WELLNESS PROGRAM

Status: ADOPTED

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The primary goals of the Pike County R-III School District's wellness program are to promote student health, reduce student overweight/obesity, facilitate student learning of lifelong healthy habits, and increase student achievement. The following procedures will guide the implementation of the district wellness program.

Nutrition Guidelines

The district is committed to ensuring that all foods and beverages sold, provided, or made available to students on school campuses during the school day support healthy eating and create an environment that reinforces the development of healthy eating habits. For that reason, and as required by law, the district has set the following nutrition standards for its meal programs, competitive foods and beverages sold outside the meal programs, and other foods and beverages provided or made available to students during the school day.

For the purposes of this procedure, the school day is the time period from the midnight before to 30 minutes after the official school day. These meal standards do not apply to food sold at other times, such as evening or weekend events.

Nutrition Standards for Meal Programs

The food sold to students as part of the district's meal programs will meet the requirements of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Nutrition Standards for Competitive Foods and Beverages

The foods and beverages sold and served during the school day outside the reimbursable school meal programs (competitive foods and beverages) will meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School (Smart Snacks) nutrition standards. These standards will apply in all locations any time foods and beverages are sold to students during the school day, which includes, but is not limited to, foods and beverages sold in vending machines, school stores, and snack or food carts; à la carte options in cafeterias; and food and beverages sold through district-sponsored fundraising, including fundraising by student-initiated groups, unless an exemption applies, as described below.

Fundraising Exemption to Nutrition Guidelines

Unless otherwise prohibited by board policies or limitations on marketing, the following are exemptions to the rule requiring that foods sold as fundraisers meet USDA standards:

1. Foods sold off campus, outside the school day, or to nonstudents do not have to meet the USDA standards.
2. Foods that do not meet USDA standards and are not intended for consumption at school may be delivered during the school day, and order forms for such food may be distributed during the school day, to the extent that these activities otherwise comply with district policies and procedures.
3. Each school building within the district may hold up to five one-day fundraisers per school year on district property during the school day that involve the sale of foods that do not meet USDA standards.

Nutrition Standards for Foods and Beverages Provided to Students during the School Day

All foods and beverages the district provides or makes available to students during the school day will meet or exceed the Smart Snacks nutrition standards. This includes, but is not limited to, foods and beverages provided or made available to students for celebrations, classroom parties, and birthdays, regardless of the source of the food. The district will provide parents/guardians and district employees with a list of foods and beverages that meet the Smart Snacks nutrition standards and a list of healthy party ideas, including nonfood celebration ideas.

Foods and beverages should not be used as a reward or withheld as punishment.

Water

Students will have access to safe and unflavored drinking water throughout the school day in every district facility used by students. Free, safe, and unflavored drinking water will be available to students during mealtimes in the places where meals are served.

Food Procurement

District food procurement will comply with USDA regulations, including implementation of the Buy American provision established under the National School Lunch Act.

The district may apply a geographic preference when procuring unprocessed, locally grown, or locally raised agricultural products and may use "locally grown," "locally raised," or "locally caught" as procurement specifications or selection criteria for unprocessed or minimally processed food items. When utilizing geographic preference to procure such products, the district has the discretion to determine the local area to which the geographic preference option will be applied, so long as there are an appropriate number of qualified vendors able to compete.

Nutrition Education

The district's nutrition education goal is to integrate sequential nutrition education with the comprehensive health education program and, to the extent possible, the core curriculum taught at every grade level to provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills to make healthy nutrition decisions. To achieve the nutrition education goal, the district will:

1. Provide students at all grade levels with adequate nutrition knowledge including, but not limited to:
    - The benefits of healthy eating.
    - Essential nutrients.
    - Principles of healthy weight management.
    - The use and misuse of dietary supplements.
    - Safe food preparation, handling, and storage.
2. Provide students with nutrition-related skills that minimally include the ability to:
    - Plan healthy meals.
    - Understand and use food labels.
    - Apply the principles of the USDA's Dietary Guidelines for Americans and MyPyramid.
    - Assess personal eating habits, nutrition goal-setting, and achievement.
3. Provide instructional activities that stress the appealing aspects of healthy eating and are hands-on, behavior based, culturally relevant, developmentally appropriate, and enjoyable. Examples of activities include, but are not limited to: food preparation, contests, promotions, taste testings, farm visits, and school gardens.
4. Encourage district staff to cooperate with local agencies and community groups to provide students with opportunities for volunteer work related to nutrition, such as in food banks, soup kitchens, or after-school programs.
5. Provide information to all school staff about the symptoms of nutrition-related conditions such as unhealthy weight, eating disorders, and other nutrition-related health problems. Staff members who identify students who may have nutrition-related conditions will notify school counselors or student health services staff. When appropriate, school counselors or student health services staff will provide information about these conditions, including available treatment options, to students and their parents/guardians.
6. Coordinate the food service program with nutrition instruction. Food service staff should also work closely with those responsible for other components of the school health program to achieve common goals.

Nutrition Promotion

Nutrition promotion that uses evidence-based techniques to encourage healthy nutrition choices and participation in school meal programs positively influences lifelong eating behaviors. Students and staff will receive consistent nutrition messages throughout district facilities. Nutrition promotion also includes marketing and advertising nutritious foods and beverages to students and is most effective when implemented consistently by school staff, parents/guardians, and the community. The district will promote the importance of good nutrition in its schools and in the community through one or more of the following activities:

1. Offering healthy eating seminars for parents/guardians.

2. Providing nutrition information to parents/guardians via newsletters, handouts, presentations, or other appropriate means.

3. Posting nutrition tips on district websites.

4. Offering appropriate, participatory activities, such as cooking lessons or demonstrations, taste testings, farm visits, and school gardens.

5. Disseminating information about community programs that offer nutrition assistance to families.

6. Posting links on district websites to research and articles explaining the connections between good nutrition and academic performance.

7. Providing school meals that meet a variety of cultural preferences with a special emphasis on the populations served by the district.

8. Posting menus, including nutrient contents and ingredients, on district and school websites.

If practical, the district will provide information in a language understandable to the parents/guardians.

Marketing and Advertising

Marketing in district facilities will be consistent with the goals of the district's wellness program and comply with board policy. The district will strive to promote the wellness program and educate parents/guardians regarding the quality of district foods.

Food and beverage marketing will be limited to the promotion of foods and beverages that meet the Smart Snacks nutrition standards. Other examples of marketing and advertising the district will scrutinize include, but are not limited to, pricing strategies that promote healthy food choices; audiovisual programming; educational incentive programs; scoreboards; book covers; district transportation; and vending machine displays.

Physical Activity

Moderate Physical Activity – Low-impact to medium-impact physical exertion designed to increase an individual's heart rate to rise to at least 75 percent of his or her maximum heart rate. Examples of moderate physical activity include, but are not limited to, running, calisthenics, or aerobic exercise. Time spent in recess and physical education counts as moderate physical activity.

Recess – A structured play environment outside of regular classroom instructional activities that allows students to engage in safe and active free play.

The district's physical activity goal is to assist students in learning to value and enjoy physical activity as an ongoing part of a healthy lifestyle by ensuring that every student has the opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills and desire to perform a variety of physical activities, maintain physical fitness, and regularly participate in physical activity. To achieve the physical activity goal, the district will:

1. Develop a sequential program of appropriate physical education aligned with the Missouri Learning Standards for every student. The elementary program will provide for:

    - Thirty minutes of recess per day. Recess may be incorporated into the lunch period, but will be scheduled before lunch and held outdoors when possible.

    - An average of 150 minutes of moderate physical activity each four-day school week or an average of 30 minutes per school day. The program will also provide for 50 minutes per week of physical education under the supervision of a certified physical education instructor.

- The middle school program will provide for 232 minutes of moderate physical activity during each school week and 8,352 minutes of physical education per year.

- The high school program will provide for one unit of physical education prior to graduation.

All activity will:

- Emphasize knowledge and skills for a lifetime of regular physical activity.

- Meet the needs of all students, especially those who are not physically skilled or who have special needs.

- Provide a variety of activity choices, feature cooperative as well as competitive activities, and account for gender and cultural differences in students' interests.

- Prohibit exemptions from physical education courses based on participation on an athletic team, community recreation program, ROTC, marching band, or other school or community activity.

- Contribute to achieving the goals established in the district's wellness policy and be closely coordinated with the other components of the overall school health program.

2. Provide opportunities and encouragement for students to voluntarily participate in before- and after-school physical activity programs designed to supplement, not replace, the district's physical education offerings, such as intramural activities, interscholastic athletics, and clubs by:

    - Providing a diverse selection of competitive and noncompetitive, as well as structured and unstructured, activities to the extent that staffing and district/community facilities permit.

    - Encouraging partnerships between schools and businesses. Promotion of such partnerships must be appropriate and in accordance with board policy and applicable procedures.

3. Strive to provide joint school and community recreational activities by:

    - Actively engaging families as partners in their children's education and collaborating with community agencies and organizations to provide ample opportunities for students to participate in physical activity beyond the school day.

    - Encouraging schools to work with recreation agencies and other community organizations to coordinate and enhance opportunities available to students for physical activity during their out-of-school time.

    - Encouraging district officials to work together with local public works, public safety, police departments, and/or other appropriate state and federal authorities in efforts to make it safer and easier for students to walk and bike to school.

4. Discourage the use of physical activity as a form of discipline or punishment.

5. Discourage periods of inactivity that are excessive in length. When activities such as mandatory schoolwide testing make it necessary for students to remain indoors for long periods of time, staff should give students periodic breaks during which they are encouraged to stand and be moderately active.

6. Provide opportunities and encouragement for staff to be physically active by:

    - Allowing recreation agencies and other community organizations to coordinate and enhance opportunities available to staff for physical activity during their out-of-school time.

Other School-Based Activities

The district's goal for other school-based activities is to ensure an integrated whole-school approach to the district's wellness program. The district will achieve this goal by addressing the areas itemized below.

Community Involvement

Staff will collaborate with agencies and groups conducting nutrition education in the community to send consistent messages to students and their families. A list of foods and beverages that meet the Smart Snacks nutrition standards and ideas for healthy

celebrations, rewards, and nonfood fundraising activities will be provided to community organizations that serve youth. Guest speakers invited to address students will receive appropriate orientation to the relevant policies of the district.

The wellness program shall make effective use of district and community resources and equitably serve the needs and interests of all students and staff, taking into consideration differences of gender, cultural norms, physical and cognitive abilities, and fitness level.

Family Involvement

The district will strive to engage families as partners in their children's education by supporting parental efforts to motivate and help their children with maintaining and improving their health, preventing disease, and avoiding health-related risk behaviors. Strategies the district may implement to achieve family involvement may include, but are not limited to:

1. Providing nutrient analyses of district menus.
2. Providing parents/guardians with a list of appropriate foods that meet the district's nutrition standards for snacks.
3. Providing parents/guardians with ideas for nonfood rewards and healthy celebrations, parties, and fundraising activities.
4. Encouraging parents/guardians to pack healthy lunches and snacks and to refrain from including beverages and foods that do not meet the district's nutrition standards.
5. Designing curricular nutrition education activities and promotions to involve parents/guardians and the community.
6. Supporting efforts of parents/guardians to provide their children with opportunities to be physically active outside of school.
7. Providing information about physical education and other school-based physical activity opportunities available to students before, during, and after the school day.
8. Sharing information about physical activity and physical education via the district's website, newsletter, other take-home materials, special events, or physical education homework.
9. Working with families to provide consistent sun safety information that includes an overview of the district's sun safety program and an explanation of how parents/guardians can reinforce the program at home and become involved with and support the district's program.
10. Encouraging parents/guardians to volunteer time in the classroom, cafeteria, or at special events that promote student health.
11. Providing opportunities for parent/guardian involvement with the district wellness committee.

If practical, the district will provide information in a language understandable to parents/guardians.

Indoor Air Quality

District employees will refrain from using candles, oils, sprays, plug-ins, and other sources of fragrance. Pesticides and cleaning products will be used only in accordance with district policies and procedures.

Mealtimes

Students are not permitted to leave school campus during the school day to purchase food or beverages. Mealtimes will comply with the following guidelines:

1. Mealtimes will provide students with at least 15 minutes to eat after sitting down for breakfast and 22 minutes after sitting down for lunch.
2. Activities such as tutoring or meetings will not be held during mealtimes unless students may eat during such activities.
3. Free, safe, and unflavored drinking water will be available to students during meals in the meal service area.

4. Students will have access to hand-washing facilities before they eat meals or snacks.

5. The district will take reasonable steps to accommodate the toothbrushing regimens of students.

6. Students will be allowed to converse during meals.

7. The cafeteria will be clean, orderly, and inviting.

8. Adequate seating and supervision will be provided during mealtimes.

Staff Development and Training

All staff will be provided with ongoing training and professional development related to all areas of student wellness. Staff responsible for nutrition education will be adequately prepared and regularly participate in professional development activities to effectively deliver the nutrition education program as planned. Staff responsible for implementing the physical education program will be properly certified and regularly participate in area-specific professional development activities.

Qualified nutrition professionals will administer the district meal programs and will receive ongoing, area-specific professional development. The district will provide continuing professional development for all district nutrition professionals. Staff development programs will include appropriate certification and/or training programs for child nutrition directors, school nutrition managers, and cafeteria workers according to their levels of responsibility.

Staff Wellness

The Pike County R-III School District highly values the health and well-being of every staff member and will plan and implement activities and policies that support personal efforts by staff to maintain a healthy lifestyle. The district will offer staff wellness programs that include education on nutrition, healthy eating behaviors, and maintaining a healthy weight for optimal health. The district will establish and maintain a staff wellness committee composed of at least one staff member; wellness committee member; registered dietitian, school nurse, or other health professional; employee benefits specialist; and other appropriate personnel. The staff wellness committee will serve as a subcommittee of the district wellness committee. The staff wellness committee will develop, promote, and oversee a multifaceted plan to promote staff health and wellness. The plan will be based on input solicited from district staff and will outline ways to encourage healthy eating, physical activity, sun safety, and other elements of a healthy lifestyle. The staff wellness committee will provide a copy of its plan to the wellness program committee.

Sun Safety

"Sun safety" describes a range of behaviors that include wearing appropriate clothing, applying sunscreen, and limiting sun exposure. The sun safety program will focus on outdoor behavior and will be developmentally appropriate, active, engaging, and taught in lessons that emphasize the benefits of sun safety. Sun safety education will be designed to assist students with:

1. Knowledge about the harmful effects of the sun and ways to protect skin.

2. Sun-safe skills, including the correct use of protective clothing, hats, sunglasses, sunscreen, and lip balm as well as seeking shade and limiting sun exposure when possible and practical during the hours of peak sun intensity.

3. Knowledge about how to assess personal sun safety habits, set goals for improvement, and achieve these goals.

Tobacco

Tobacco use prevention education will focus on all grades with particular emphasis on middle school and reinforcement in all later grades. Instructional activities will be participatory and developmentally appropriate. Tobacco use prevention education programs will be implemented in accordance with board policy, relevant administrative procedures, and law.

Oversight and Assessment

The wellness program coordinators are responsible for monitoring implementation and assessing the effectiveness of the district wellness program by:

1. Completing the required triennial assessment.

2. Prioritizing wellness goals and writing work plans for each goal.

3. Measuring implementation of the district wellness policy and procedure.

4. Ensuring that the district meets the goals of the wellness policy and procedure.

5. Reporting to the board on compliance and progress.

6. Comparing the district's policy to model policies.

Compliance Indicators

The program coordinators will use the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) School Health Index as a measure of the overall effectiveness of the local wellness program. In addition, the wellness program coordinators will identify at least one other assessment tool, including those available through the USDA or CDC, that provides measures not covered by the School Health Index. Assessment tools may be locally created.

Policy Review

The wellness program coordinators will provide policy revision recommendations to the board as part of the periodic report. The recommendations will be based on analysis of the compliance indicators and comparison of the district's policy to model policies provided, recommended, or referenced by the USDA. The board will revise the wellness policy as it deems necessary. Administrative procedures will be revised accordingly.

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Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
§ 167.720, RSMo.	State Statute
§§ 610.010-.030, RSMo.	State Statute

Federal	Description
42 U.S.C. §§ 1751-1760	Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act
7 C.F.R. Part 210 et seq.	National School Lunch Program

Cross References	Description
BCE	BOARD COMMITTEES/ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO THE BOARD
DJF-1	PURCHASING
DJF-1-AP(1)	PURCHASING
EF	FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT
EF-AP(1)	FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT - (Meal Charges)
EFB	FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE FOOD SERVICE
GCL	PROFESSIONAL STAFF DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES
GDL	SUPPORT STAFF DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES
IGAEA	TEACHING ABOUT DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO
IGBC	PARENT AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT
IGDF	STUDENT FUNDRAISING
JHCF	STUDENT ALLERGY PREVENTION AND RESPONSE
JHCF-AP(1)	STUDENT ALLERGY PREVENTION AND RESPONSE
KI	PUBLIC SOLICITATIONS/ADVERTISING IN DISTRICT FACILITIES