

STUDENT WELLNESS

The Governing Board recognizes the link between student health and learning and desires to provide a comprehensive program promoting healthy eating and physical activity for district students. The Superintendent or designee shall coordinate and align district efforts to support student wellness through health education, physical education and activity, health services, nutrition services, psychological and counseling services, and a safe and healthy school environment. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies for promoting staff wellness and for involving parents/guardians and the community in reinforcing students' understanding and appreciation of the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)
(cf. 3513.3 - Tobacco-Free Schools)
(cf. 3514 - Environmental Safety)
(cf. 5131.6 - Alcohol and Other Drugs)
(cf. 5131.61 - Drug Testing)
(cf. 5131.62 - Tobacco)
(cf. 5131.63 - Steroids)
(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)
(cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)
(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)
(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)
(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)
(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)
(cf. 6142.1 - Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Education)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

School Wellness Council

The Superintendent or designee shall encourage parents/guardians, students, food service employees, physical education teachers, school health professionals, Board members, school administrators, and members of the public to participate in the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the district's student wellness policy. (42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.30)

To fulfill this requirement, the Superintendent or designee may appoint a school wellness council or other district committee and a wellness council coordinator. The council may include representatives of the groups listed above, as well as health educators, curriculum directors, counselors, before- and after-school program staff, health practitioners, and/or others interested in school health issues.

(cf. 1220 - Citizen Advisory Committees)
(cf. 9140 - Board Representatives)

The Superintendent or designee may make available to the public and school community a list of the names, position titles, and contact information of the wellness council members.

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The wellness council shall advise the district on health-related issues, activities, policies, and programs. At the discretion of the Superintendent or designee, the duties of the council may also include the planning, implementation, and evaluation of activities to promote health within the school or community.

Goals for Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Other Wellness Activities

The Board shall adopt specific goals for nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that promote student wellness. In developing such goals, the Board shall review and consider evidence-based strategies and techniques. (42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.30)

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)

The district's nutrition education and physical education programs shall be based on research, shall be consistent with the expectations established in the state's curriculum frameworks and content standards, and shall be designed to build the skills and knowledge that all students need to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

(cf. 6142.7 - Physical Education and Activity)

(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

The nutrition education program shall include, but is not limited to, information about the benefits of healthy eating for learning, disease prevention, weight management, and oral health. Nutrition education shall be provided as part of the health education program and, as appropriate, shall be integrated into other academic subjects in the regular educational program, before- and after-school programs, summer learning programs, and school garden programs.

(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)

(cf. 6177 - Summer Learning Programs)

All students shall be provided opportunities to be physically active on a regular basis. Opportunities for moderate to vigorous physical activity shall be provided through physical education and recess and may also be provided through school athletic programs, extracurricular programs, before- and after-school programs, summer learning programs, programs encouraging students to walk or bicycle to and from school, in-class physical activity breaks, and other structured and unstructured activities.

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(cf. 5142.2 - Safe Routes to School Program)
(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)
(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

The Board may enter into a joint use agreement or memorandum of understanding to make district facilities or grounds available for recreational or sports activities outside the school day and/or to use community facilities to expand students' access to opportunity for physical activity.

(cf. 1330.1 - Joint Use Agreements)

Professional development may be regularly offered to the nutrition program director, managers, and staff, as well as health education teachers, physical education teachers, coaches, activity supervisors, and other staff as appropriate to enhance their knowledge and skills related to student health and wellness.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

In order to ensure that students have access to comprehensive health services, the district may provide access to health services at or near district schools and/or may provide referrals to community resources.

The Board recognizes that a safe, positive school environment is also conducive to students' physical and mental health and thus prohibits bullying and harassment of all students, including bullying on the basis of weight or health condition.

(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

The Superintendent or designee shall encourage staff to serve as positive role models for healthy eating and physical fitness. He/she shall promote work-site wellness programs and may provide opportunities for regular physical activity among employees.

Nutrition Guidelines for All Foods Available at School

For all foods and beverages available on each campus during the school day, the district shall adopt nutrition guidelines which are consistent with 42 USC 1758, 1766, 1773, and 1779 and federal regulations and which support the objectives of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity. (42 USC 1758b)

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In order to maximize the district's ability to provide nutritious meals and snacks, all district schools shall participate in available federal school nutrition programs, including the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs and after-school snack programs, to the extent possible. When approved by the California Department of Education, the district may sponsor a summer meal program.

(cf. 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)
(cf. 3552 - Summer Meal Program)
(cf. 3553 - Free and Reduced Price Meals)
(cf. 5141.27 - Food Allergies/Special Dietary Needs)
(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)
(cf. 5148.3 - Preschool/Early Childhood Education)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide access to free, potable water in the food service area during meal times in accordance with Education Code 38086 and 42 USC 1758, and shall encourage students' consumption of water by educating them about the health benefits of water and by serving water in an appealing manner.

The Board believes that all foods and beverages sold to students at district schools, including those available outside the district's reimbursable food services program, should support the health curriculum and promote optimal health. Nutrition standards adopted by the district for foods and beverages provided through student stores, vending machines, or other venues shall meet or exceed state and federal nutrition standards.

(cf. 3312 - Contracts)
(cf. 3554 - Other Food Sales)

The Superintendent or designee shall encourage school organizations to use healthy food items or non-food items for fundraising purposes.

He/she also shall encourage school staff to avoid the use of non-nutritious foods as a reward for students' academic performance, accomplishments, or classroom behavior.

School staff shall encourage parents/guardians or other volunteers to support the district's nutrition education program by considering nutritional quality when selecting any snacks which they may donate for occasional class parties. Class parties or celebrations shall be held after the lunch period when possible.

To reinforce the district's nutrition education program, the Board prohibits the marketing and advertising of foods and beverages that do not meet nutrition standards for the sale of foods and beverages on campus during the school day. (7 CFR 210.30)

(cf. 1325 - Advertising and Promotion)

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Program Implementation and Evaluation

The Superintendent designates the individual(s) identified below as the individual(s) responsible for ensuring that each school site complies with the district's wellness policy. (42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.30)

Director Health Services
Visalia Unified School District
5000 W Cypress
Visalia CA 93277
(559)730-7580

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)
(cf. 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance)

The Superintendent or designee shall assess the implementation and effectiveness of this policy at least once every three years. (42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.30)

The assessment shall include the extent to which district schools are in compliance with this policy, the extent to which this policy compares to model wellness policies available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and a description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy. (42 USC 1758b)

The Superintendent or designee shall invite feedback on district and school wellness activities from food service personnel, school administrators, the wellness council, parents/guardians, students, teachers, before- and after-school program staff, and/or other appropriate persons.

The Board and the Superintendent or designee shall establish indicators that will be used to measure the implementation and effectiveness of the district activities related to student wellness. Such indicators may include, but are not limited to:

1. Descriptions of the district's nutrition education, physical education, and health education curricula and the extent to which they align with state academic content standards and legal requirements
2. An analysis of the nutritional content of school meals and snacks served in all district programs, based on a sample of menus and production records
3. Student participation rates in all school meal and/or snack programs, including the number of students enrolled in the free and reduced-price meals program compared to the number of students eligible for that program

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4. Extent to which foods and beverages sold on campus outside the food services program, such as through vending machines, student stores, or fundraisers, comply with nutrition standards
5. Extent to which other foods and beverages that are available on campus during the school day, such as foods and beverages for classroom parties, school celebrations, and rewards/incentives, comply with nutrition standards
6. Results of the state's physical fitness test at applicable grade levels
7. Number of minutes of physical education offered at each grade span, and the estimated percentage of class time spent in moderate to vigorous physical activity
8. A description of district efforts to provide additional opportunities for physical activity outside of the physical education program
9. A description of other districtwide or school-based wellness activities offered, including the number of sites and/or students participating, as appropriate

As feasible, the assessment report may include a comparison of results across multiple years, a comparison of district data with county, statewide, or national data, and/or a comparison of wellness data with other student outcomes such as academic indicators or student discipline rates.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall prepare and maintain the proper documentation and records needed for the administrative review of the district's wellness policy conducted by the California Department of Education (CDE) every three years.

The assessment results of both the district and state evaluations shall be submitted to the Board for the purposes of evaluating policy and practice, recognizing accomplishments, and making policy adjustments as needed to focus district resources and efforts on actions that are most likely to make a positive impact on student health and achievement.

Notifications

The Superintendent or designee shall inform the public about the content and implementation of the district's wellness policy and shall make the policy, and any updates to the policy, available the public on an annual basis. He/she shall also inform the public of the district's progress towards meeting the goals of the wellness policy, including the availability of the triennial district assessment. (Education Code 49432; 42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.30)

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(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

The Superintendent or designee shall distribute this information through the most effective methods of communication, including district or school newsletters, handouts, parent/guardian meetings, district and school web sites, and other communications. Outreach to parents/guardians shall emphasize the relationship between student health and wellness and academic performance.

(cf. 1100 - Communication with the Public)

(cf. 1112 - Media Relations)

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)

(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

Each school may post a summary of nutrition and physical activity laws and regulations prepared by the CDE.

Records

The Superintendent or designee shall retain records that document compliance with 7 CFR 210.30, including, but not limited to, the written student wellness policy, documentation of the triennial assessment of the wellness policy for each school site, and documentation demonstrating compliance with the community involvement requirements, including requirements to make the policy and assessment results available to the public. (7 CFR 210.30)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

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Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33350-33354 *CDE responsibilities re: physical education*
38086 *Free fresh drinking water*
49430-49434 *Pupil Nutrition, Health, and Achievement Act of 2001*
49490-49494 *School breakfast and lunch programs*
49500-49505 *School meals*
49510-49520 *Nutrition*
49530-49536 *Child Nutrition Act*
49540-49546 *Child care food program*
49547-49548.3 *Comprehensive nutrition services*
49550-49562 *Meals for needy students*
49565-49565.8 *California Fresh Start pilot program*
49570 *National School Lunch Act*
51210 *Course of study, grades 1-6*
51210.1-51210.2 *Physical education, grades 1-6*
51210.4 *Nutrition education*
51220 *Course of study, grades 7-12*
51222 *Physical education*
51223 *Physical education, elementary schools*
51795-51798 *School instructional gardens*
51880-51921 *Comprehensive health education*

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

15500-15501 *Food sales by student organizations*
15510 *Mandatory meals for needy students*
15530-15535 *Nutrition education*
15550-15565 *School lunch and breakfast programs*

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1751-1769j *National School Lunch Program, especially:*
1758b *Local wellness policy*
1771-1793 *Child Nutrition Act, especially:*
1773 *School Breakfast Program*
1779 *Rules and regulations, Child Nutrition Act*

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 7

210.1-210.33 *National School Lunch Program, especially:*
210.30 *Wellness policy*
220.1-220.22 *National School Breakfast Program*

COURT DECISIONS

Frazer v. Dixon Unified School District, (1993) 18 Cal.App.4th 781

Management Resources: (see next page)

STUDENT WELLNESS (continued)*Management Resources: (continued)*CSBA PUBLICATIONS*Integrating Physical Activity into the School Day, Governance Brief, April 2016**Increasing Access to Drinking Water in Schools, Policy Brief, April 2013**Monitoring for Success: A Guide for Assessing and Strengthening Student Wellness Policies, rev. 2012**Nutrition Standards for Schools: Implications for Student Wellness, Policy Brief, rev. April 2012**Student Wellness: A Healthy Food and Physical Activity Policy Resource Guide, rev. 2012**Physical Activity and Physical Education in California Schools, Research Brief, April 2010**Building Healthy Communities: A School Leader's Guide to Collaboration and Community Engagement, 2009*CSBA PUBLICATIONS (continued)*Safe Routes to School: Program and Policy Strategies for School Districts, Policy Brief, 2009**Physical Education and California Schools, Policy Brief, rev. October 2007**School-Based Marketing of Foods and Beverages: Policy Implications for School Boards, Policy Brief, March 2006*CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS*Physical Education Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2009**Health Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2003*CALIFORNIA PROJECT LEAN PUBLICATIONS*Policy in Action: A Guide to Implementing Your Local School Wellness Policy, October 2006*CENTER FOR COLLABORATIVE SOLUTIONS*Changing Lives, Saving Lives: A Step-by-Step Guide to Developing Exemplary Practices in Healthy Eating, Physical Activity and Food Security in Afterschool Programs, January 2015*CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION PUBLICATIONS*School Health Index for Physical Activity and Healthy Eating: A Self-Assessment and Planning Guide, rev. 2012*FEDERAL REGISTER*Rules and Regulations, July 29, 2016, Vol. 81, Number 146, pages 50151-50170*NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE BOARDS OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS*Fit, Healthy and Ready to Learn, rev. 2012*U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PUBLICATIONS*Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2016*WEB SITESCSBA: <http://www.csba.org>Action for Healthy Kids: <http://www.actionforhealthykids.org>Alliance for a Healthier Generation: <http://www.healthiergeneration.org>California Department of Education, Nutrition Services Division: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu>California Department of Public Health: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov>California Healthy Kids Resource Center: <http://www.californiahealthykids.org>California Project LEAN (Leaders Encouraging Activity and Nutrition):<http://www.californiaprojectlean.org>California School Nutrition Association: <http://www.calsna.org>Center for Collaborative Solutions: <http://www.ccscenter.org>*Management Resources: (continued next page)*

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Management Resources: (continued)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>

Dairy Council of California: <http://www.dairycouncilofca.org>

National Alliance for Nutrition and Activity: <http://www.cspinet.org/nutritionpolicy/nana.html>

National Association of State Boards of Education: <http://www.nasbe.org>

School Nutrition Association: <http://www.schoolnutrition.org>

Society for Nutrition Education: <http://www.sne.org>

*U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Nutrition Service, wellness policy:
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/Healthy/wellnesspolicy.html>*

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Healthy Meals Resource System: <http://healthymeals.fns.usda.gov>

Policy

adopted: April 25, 2006

revised: April 14, 2009

revised: November 13, 2012

revised: November 7, 2017

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Visalia, California