

WELLNESS

As required by law, the Board of Education establishes the following wellness policy for the School District of New Holstein as a part of a comprehensive wellness initiative.

The Board recognizes that good nutrition and regular physical activity affect the health and well-being of the District's students. Furthermore, research suggests that there is a positive correlation between a student's health and well-being and his/her ability to learn. Moreover, schools can play an important role in the developmental process by which students establish their health and nutrition habits by providing nutritious meals and snacks through the schools' meal programs, by supporting the development of good eating habits, and by promoting increased physical activity both in and out of school.

Schools alone, however, cannot develop in students healthy behaviors and habits with regard to eating and exercise cannot be accomplished by the schools alone. It will be necessary for not only the staff, but also parents and the public at large to be involved in a community-wide effort to promote, support, and model such healthy behaviors and habits.

The Board sets the following goals in an effort to enable students to establish good health and nutrition choices to:

- A. promote nutrition education with the objective of improving students' health and reducing childhood obesity;
- B. improve the health and well-being of our children, increase consumption of healthful foods during the school day, and create an environment that reinforces the development of healthy eating habits;
- C. promote nutrition guidelines, a healthy eating environment, child nutrition programs, and food safety and security on each school campus with the objective of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity;
- D. provide opportunities for every student to develop the knowledge and skills for specific physical activities, maintain physical fitness, regularly participate in physical activity, and understand the short and long-term benefits of a physically active lifestyle;
- E. promote the health and wellness of students and staff through other school based activities.

The District Administrator shall obtain the input of District stakeholders, to include parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, educational staff (including physical education teachers), school health professionals, members of the public, and other school administrators in the development, implementation, evaluation, and periodic update, if necessary, of the wellness policy.

The District Administrator is encouraged to form a wellness committee to carry out this function.

The wellness committee shall be an administrative committee with members recruited and appointed by the District Administrator. The District Administrator shall be responsible for accomplishing the following:

- A. assess the current environment in each of the District's schools;
- B. measure the implementation of the District's wellness policy in each of the District's schools;
- C. review the District's current wellness policy;
- D. recommend revision of the policy, as necessary; and
- E. present the wellness policy, with any necessary revisions, to the Board for approval or re-adoption if revisions are necessary.

The District Administrator will oversee development, implementation, and evaluation of the wellness procedures.

The District Administrator shall conduct reviews of the progress toward school wellness procedures, identify areas for improvement, and recommend revision of procedures as necessary.

The Food Service Director or a designee of the wellness committee shall report annually to the Board on the District's wellness programs, including the assessment of the environment in the District, evaluation of wellness policy implementation District-wide, and the areas for improvement, if any, identified. The District Administrator or a designee from the wellness committee shall also report on the status of compliance by individual schools and progress made in attaining goals established in the policy.

- A. With regard to nutrition education, the District shall:
 1. Nutrition education shall be included in the Health curriculum so that instruction is sequential and standards-based and provides students with the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to lead healthy lives.
 2. Nutrition education shall be included in the sequential, comprehensive health curriculum in accordance with the curriculum standards and benchmarks established by the State.
 3. Nutrition education shall be integrated into other subject areas of the curriculum, when appropriate, to complement, but not replace, the standards and benchmarks for health education.
 4. Nutrition education standards and benchmarks shall be age- appropriate and culturally relevant.

5. Nutrition education shall include opportunities for appropriate student projects related to nutrition, involving, when possible, community agencies and organizations.
6. Nutrition education shall extend beyond the classroom by engaging and involving the school's food service staff.
7. Nutrition education posters, such as the Food Pyramid Guide, will be displayed in the cafeteria.
8. Nutrition education shall reinforce lifelong balance by emphasizing the link between caloric intake (eating) and exercise in ways that are age-appropriate.
9. Nutrition education benchmarks and standards include a focus on media literacy as it relates to food marketing strategies.
10. Nutrition education standards and benchmarks promote the benefits of a balanced diet that includes fruits, vegetables, whole grain products, and low-fat and fat-free dairy products.
11. Staff responsible for providing instruction in nutrition education shall regularly participate in professional development activities designed to better enable them to teach the benchmarks and standards.
12. Instruction related to the standards and benchmarks for nutrition education shall be provided by highly qualified teachers.
13. The District shall provide information to parents that is designed to encourage them to reinforce at home the standards and benchmarks being taught in the classroom.

B. With regard to physical activity, the District shall:

Select one (1) or more of the following from both categories:]

1. Physical Education

- a. A sequential, comprehensive physical education program shall be provided for students in K-12 in accordance with the physical education academic content standards and benchmarks adopted by the State.
- b. The sequential, comprehensive physical education curriculum shall provide students with opportunities to learn, practice, and be

assessed on developmentally appropriate knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to engage in lifelong, health-enhancing physical activity.

- c. Planned instruction in physical education shall promote participation in physical activity outside the regular school day.
- d. The physical education curriculum shall provide sequential instruction related to the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to participate in lifelong, health-enhancing physical activity.
- e. Physical education classes shall provide students with opportunities to learn, practice, and be assessed on developmentally appropriate knowledge and attitudes necessary to engage in lifelong, health-enhancing physical activity.
- f. The sequential, comprehensive physical education curriculum shall stress the importance of remaining physically active for life.
- g. The K-12 program shall include instruction in physical education as well as opportunities to participate in competitive and non-competitive team sports to encourage lifelong physical activity.
- h. Teachers properly certificated/licensed in the subject area of physical education shall provide all instruction in physical education.

2. Physical Activity

- a. Physical activity and movement shall be integrated, when possible, across the curricula and throughout the school day.
- b. In addition to planned physical education, the school shall provide age-appropriate physical activities (e.g., recess during the school day, intramurals and clubs before and after school, and interscholastic sports) that meet the needs of all students, including males, females, students with disabilities, and students with special health care needs.

C. With regard to other school-based activities the District shall:

- 1. The schools shall provide at least thirty (30) minutes daily for students to eat.
- 2. The school shall provide attractive, clean environments in which the students eat.

3. The schools may use environmentally friendly practices, such as the use of locally grown foods and non-disposable tableware and dishes.
4. The schools may provide opportunities for staff, parents, and other community members to model healthy eating habits by dining with students in the school dining areas.
5. Schools in our system utilize electronic identification and payment systems, therefore, eliminating any stigma or identification of students eligible to receive free and/or reduced meals.

Furthermore, with the objectives of enhancing student health and well being, and reducing childhood obesity, the following guidelines are established:

- A. In accordance with Policy 8500, entitled Food Service, the food service program shall comply with Federal and State regulations pertaining to the selection, preparation, consumption, and disposal of food and beverages as well as to the fiscal management of the program.
- B. As set forth in Policy 8531, entitled Free and Reduced Price Meals, the guidelines for reimbursable school meals are not less restrictive than the guidelines issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).
- C. The food service program will strive to be financially self-supporting; however, if it is necessary to subsidize the operation, it will not be through the sale of foods with minimal nutritious value.
- D. The food service program will provide all students affordable access to the varied and nutritious foods they need to be healthy and to learn well.
- E. All foods available to students in the dining area during school food service hours shall comply with the current USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans, including competitive foods available to student a la carte or from vending machines.
- F. The food service program shall be administered by a qualified nutrition professional.