

Administrative Procedure ADF-AP(1): DISTRICT WELLNESS PROGRAM - (K-12 Districts)

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 04/10/2012 | **Last Revised Date:** 08/08/2017

The primary goals of the Riverview Gardens 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.

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 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.

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 in order to provide students with the necessary knowledge and skills to make healthy nutrition decisions. The wellness committee, in consultation with the Health and Physical Education curriculum committee, will continually evaluate the curriculum with the goal of progressing toward higher standards.

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.

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. The wellness committee, in consultation with the Health and Physical Education curriculum committee, will continually evaluate the curriculum with the goal of progressing toward higher standards. In order to comply with state law, the district will develop a sequential program of appropriate physical education for every student.

The elementary program will provide for:

- ▶ Twenty 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 five-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 3,000 minutes of physical education per year.

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

Other School-Based Activities

The wellness committee will continually evaluate and address any other school-based activities to promote wellness.

Community Involvement

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.

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 _____ (recommended: 10) minutes to eat after sitting down for breakfast and _____ (recommended: 20) minutes after sitting down for lunch.

2. Free, safe and unflavored drinking water will be available to students during meals in the meal service area.

Oversight and Assessment

The wellness program coordinator is responsible for monitoring implementation and assessing the effectiveness of the district wellness program by developing a system for assessing wellness goals and procedures and by: 1) reporting to the Board periodically; 2) completing the required triennial assessment; and 3) comparing the district's policy to model policies.

Compliance Indicators

The program coordinator 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 coordinator 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.

Note: The reader is encouraged to review policies and/or forms for related information in this administrative area.
