

CHILD NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM

The ELMORE CITY-PERNELL Board of Education recognizes that childhood obesity has reached epidemic levels throughout the country. Overweight children are at a higher risk for developing severe long-term health problems, and overweight children are affected by discrimination, psychological stress, and low self-esteem. However, research indicates that obesity and subsequent diseases are largely preventable through diet and regular physical activity. Research also indicates that becoming physically active and maintaining a regular physical activity program significantly reduces the risk of some obesity and some cancers, diabetes, and other chronic diseases.

Children who eat well-balanced meals and are healthy are more likely to learn in the classroom. The board supports increased emphasis on nutrition as well as physical activity at all grade levels to enhance the well-being of our district's youth. Therefore, it is the policy of the board to:

1. Allow parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, physical education teachers, school health professionals, the school board, school administrators, and the general public to participate in the development, implementation, review, and update of the school wellness policy.
2. Establish nutrition guidelines that meet or exceed the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) school meal requirements and the nutrition standards for competitive foods and beverages.
3. Create goals for nutrition promotion and education, physical activity and physical education, and other activities that promote student as well as staff health.
4. Adopt a plan to ensure the policy is properly implemented, regularly assessed, and periodically updated.

It is the intent of the board of education that parents, students, child nutrition employees, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, and the general public participate in the development, implementation, and periodic review and updating of this policy. It is expected that the school district's Healthy and Fit Kids Advisory Committee will participate in the process and assist the referenced individuals in preparing written recommendations to the administration and the board to adopt as a part of the school district's local school wellness policy. Specific information regarding these recommendations and the wellness policy are as follows:

NUTRITION

School Meal Requirements

The District will make nutritious foods available on campus during the school day to promote student and staff health. At a minimum, the District Child Nutrition Program will serve reimbursable meals that meet the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) requirements and follow the Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGA).

Specifically, the District will ensure that all meals are the following:

- Accessible, appealing, and attractive to all children
 - Served in a clean, pleasant, and supervised setting
 - Reviewed by a registered dietitian or other certified nutrition professional/based on a meal plan provided by a professional
- The District will also ensure that schools do the following:
- Encourage students to start the day with a healthy breakfast.
 - Provide breakfast through the USDA School Breakfast Program.

Water: Schools will make clean drinking water available and accessible without restriction and at no charge at every district facility (including cafeterias and eating areas, classrooms, hallways, playgrounds, and faculty lounges) throughout the entire school day. Schools will also ensure the following:

Students will be allowed to bring drinking water from home and take water into the classroom, provided that the water is in a capped container, such as a bottle, to prevent spills.

All water sources and containers will be maintained on a regular basis to ensure good hygiene standards (including drinking fountains, water jugs, hydration stations, and other methods for delivering drinking water).

Information and Promotion: As required under the National School Lunch Program (7 CFR 210.12), the District will promote activities to involve students and parents in the School Lunch Program. In addition, the District will do the following:

- Inform families about the availability of breakfasts for students.
- Distribute materials to inform families of the availability and location of free Summer Food Service Program meals for students when school is not in session.
- Send applications for reimbursable meal programs to families at the beginning of the school year and make applications available on the District website.

Adequate Time to Eat: The District will allow students at least 10 minutes to eat breakfast and 20 minutes to eat lunch from the time they are seated/provide sufficient lunch periods that are long enough to give all students (K-12) adequate time to be served and eat their lunches.

Competitive Foods and Beverages

All competitive foods and beverages sold to students during the school day must meet or exceed the *USDA's Smart Snacks standards*.ⁱ

Classroom Parties and Celebrations

Only foods and beverages that meet the USDA's Smart Snacks standards will be allowed to be served during classroom parties and celebrations. The District, however, may allow exemptions for up to two celebrations during the school year, during which the foods and beverages served are not required to meet the Smart Snack standards. The District will provide parents and teachers with a list of ideas for healthy food as well as non-food alternatives for classroom parties and celebrations.

Fundraising

Fundraising on Campus During the School Day: Only fundraisers that feature non-food items or foods and beverages that meet the Smart Snacks standards will be permitted.

The following will also occur:

Fundraising activities will not promote any particular food brands (e.g., fundraisers by fast food chains).

The District will encourage fundraisers that do not sell food and/or that promote physical activity.

After-School Fundraisers and Concessions

For fundraising activities outside the school (other than concessions) Clubs, Groups, and Organizations should support children's health and reinforce nutrition lessons and District should encourage fundraising activities that include healthy foods and/ or physical activity and/ or non-food items.

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The ELMORE CITY-PERNELL Board of Education recognizes that healthy eating patterns are essential for students to achieve their academic potential, full physical and mental growth, and lifelong health and well being. To ensure students possess the knowledge and skills necessary to make nutritious food choices for a lifetime, the superintendent shall prepare and implement a comprehensive district nutrition program consistent with state and federal requirements for districts sponsoring the National School Lunch Program and/or the School Breakfast Program. To implement the program, the Superintendent shall adopt and implement a comprehensive curriculum on health, fitness, and nutrition that will provide opportunities for developmentally appropriate instruction for grades K-12. The input of staff, students, parents, and public health professionals in the development of the curriculum will be encouraged.

Nutrition, health, and fitness topics shall be integrated within the sequential comprehensive health education curriculum taught at every grade level, K-12, and coordinated with the district's nutrition and food services operation.

The district shall take a proactive effort to encourage students to make nutritious food choices and will ensure that:

1. A variety of healthy food choices are available whenever food is sold or served on district property or at district-sponsored events;
2. Schools shall regulate the sale or serving of foods or snacks high in fat, sodium, or added sugars; and
3. Nutritious meals served by the school nutrition and food services operation comply with state and federal law.
4. Students are provided opportunities to apply the skills and knowledge taught in the classroom.
5. Healthy living is promoted to families and the community.

Nutrition and Healthy Food Promotion

The District will promote healthy food and beverage choices and appropriate portion sizes by doing the following:

- Exhibiting posters, signs, or other displays on the school campus that promote healthy nutrition choices.
- Providing age-appropriate activities, such as contests, food demonstrations, and taste-testing that promote healthy eating habits.
- Offering information to families (via communications with parents, educational workshops, screening services, and health-related exhibitions and fairs) and encouraging them to teach their children about nutrition and healthy eating behaviors.
- Encouraging school staff to display healthy eating habits and physical activity choices to students (e.g., by eating with students during meal times, consuming only healthy snacks, meals, and beverages in front of students, sharing positive experiences with physical activity with students, etc.).

Child Nutrition Program

The ELMORE CITY-PERNELL Public Schools will operate a school lunch program that will include lunch, and may include breakfast, through participation in the Child Nutrition Programs. The superintendent, in conjunction with the food service supervisor and with the approval of the board of education, will establish and post meal prices.

As required for participation in the Child Nutrition Programs, the board prescribes that:

School lunch is to be made available to all students.

Free and reduced price lunches are to be made available for students who meet the federal income guidelines.

Students will only be allowed to charge up to \$50.00. Once a student reaches \$50.00 they will be served an alternate meal until the bill is paid.

In the operation of the Child Nutrition Programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age, or disability. Discrimination complaints under these programs should be filed with the State Department of Education Child Nutrition Programs, 2500 North Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599.

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The district shall inform parents of the eligibility standards for free or reduced price meals. Reasonable efforts shall be made to protect the identity of students receiving such meals. A parent has the right to appeal to the superintendent any decision with respect to his/her application for free or reduced price food services.

The district's child nutrition program shall reflect the board's commitment to providing adequate time for instruction to promote healthy eating through nutrition education, serving healthy and appealing foods at district schools, developing food-use guidelines for staff, and establishing liaisons with nutrition service providers, as appropriate. Nutrition education topics shall be integrated within the sequential, comprehensive health education program taught at every grade level, pre-kindergarten through grade 12, and coordinated with the district's nutrition and food services operation.

It is the intent of the board of education that district schools take a proactive effort to encourage students to make nutritious food choices. Meals served in school before the end of the last lunch period shall conform to the U. S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Food and beverages sold or served on district grounds or at district-sponsored events shall meet requirements for nutritional standards and/or other guidelines as may be recommended by the district and school health and nutrition committees. The superintendent shall ensure that nutritious foods are available as an affordable option whenever food is sold or served on district property or at district-sponsored events.

The superintendent is directed to prepare rules and regulations to implement and support this policy, including such provisions as may be necessary to address all food and beverages sold and/or served to students at school (i.e., competitive foods, snacks, and beverages sold from vending machines, school stores, and fund raising activities and refreshments that are made available at school parties, celebrations, and meetings), including provisions for staff development, family and community involvement, and program evaluation. The board of education designates the Superintendent as the school official who shall be responsible for oversight of this policy to ensure compliance for the school district.

The content of this policy and any updates are to be provided to the public on an annual basis. The district may do this electronically or through the media.

REFERENCE: 70 O.S. §1-107
7 CFR, Parts 210 and 220
7 CFR, Part 245.5

*THIS POLICY REQUIRED BY
PUBLIC LAW 108-265, SECTION 204
AND PUBLIC LAW 111-296.*

7 CFR 2010.11.

Adoption Date:

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