

DEHESA SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD POLICIES

STUDENTS

Student Wellness

BP 5030(a)

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/Principal or designee shall build a coordinated school health system that supports and reinforces health literacy through health education, physical education, health services, nutrition services, psychological and counseling services, health promotion for staff, a safe and healthy school environment, and parent/guardian and community involvement.

School Health Council/Committee

The Board's policy related to student wellness shall be developed with the involvement of parents/guardians, students, school food service professionals, school administrators, Board representatives, and members of the public. (42 USC 1751 Note)

The Superintendent/Principal or designee may appoint a school health council or other committee consisting of representatives of the above groups. The council or committee may also include district administrators, health professionals, school nurses, health educators, physical education teachers, counselors, and/or others interested in school health issues.

The school health council or committee shall assist with policy development and advise the district on health-related issues, activities, policies, and programs. At the discretion of the Superintendent/Principal or designee, the council's charges may include planning and implementing activities to promote health within the school or community.

Nutrition Education and Physical Activity Goals

The Board shall adopt goals for nutrition education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that are designed to promote student wellness in a manner that the district determines appropriate. (42 USC 1751 Note)

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

Nutrition education shall be provided as part of the health education program in grades K-8 and, as appropriate, shall be integrated into core academic subjects and offered through before- and after-school programs.

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BP 5030(b)

All students in grades K-8 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, recess, extracurricular programs, before- and after-school programs, and other structured and unstructured activities.

The Superintendent/Principal or designee shall encourage staff to serve as positive role models. He/she shall promote and may provide opportunities for regular physical activity among employees.

Professional development shall include instructional strategies that assess health knowledge and skills and promote healthy behaviors.

To encourage consistent health messages between the home and school environment, the Superintendent/Principal or designee may disseminate health information to parents/guardians through district or school newsletters, handouts, parent/guardian meetings, the district or school web site, and other communications. Outreach to parents/guardians shall emphasize the relationship between student health and academic performance.

The Board prohibits the marketing and advertising of non-nutritious foods and beverages through signage, vending machine fronts, logos, scoreboards, school supplies, advertisements in school publications, coupon or incentive programs, or other means.

Nutrition Guidelines for Foods Available at School

The Board shall adopt nutrition guidelines selected by the district for all foods available on campus during the school day, with the objectives of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity. (42 USC 1751 Note)

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

The Superintendent/Principal 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.

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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 and by limiting foods or beverages that do not meet nutritional standards to no more than one food or beverage per party. Class parties or celebrations shall be held after the lunch period when possible.

Guidelines for Reimbursable Meals

Foods and beverages provided through federally reimbursable school meal programs shall meet or exceed federal regulations and guidance issued pursuant to 42 USC 1758(f)(1), 1766(a), and 1779(a) and (b), as they apply to schools. (42 USC 1751 Note)

In order to maximize the district's ability to provide nutritious meals and snacks, the district shall participate in available federal school nutrition programs, including the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, to the extent possible.

Program Implementation and Evaluation

The Board shall establish a plan for measuring implementation of the policy. The Superintendent/Principal shall designate at least one person within the district who is charged with operational responsibility for ensuring that the school implements the district's wellness policy. (42 USC 1751 Note)

The Superintendent/Principal or designee shall recommend for Board approval specific quality indicators that will be used to measure the implementation of the policy districtwide. These measures shall include, but not be limited to, an analysis of the nutritional content of meals served; student participation rates in school meal programs; any sales of non-nutritious foods and beverages in fundraisers or other venues outside the district's meal programs; and feedback from food service personnel, school administrators, the school health council, parents/guardians, students, and other appropriate persons.

The Superintendent/Principal or designee shall report to the Board at least every two years on the implementation of this policy and any other Board policies related to nutrition and physical activity.

Posting Requirements

Each school shall post the district's policies and regulations on nutrition and physical activity in public view within the school cafeteria. (Education Code 49432)

The school shall also post a summary of nutrition and physical activity laws and regulations prepared by the California Department of Education.