

## CHILD NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM

The Amber-Pocasset 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. Provide students access to nutritious food;
2. Provide opportunities for physical activity and developmentally appropriate exercise; and
3. Provide accurate information related to these topics.

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:

### 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
- High in fiber, free of added trans fats, and low in added fats, sugar, and sodium
- Respectful of cultural diversity (e.g., students will be encouraged to suggest local, cultural, and favorite ethnic foods) and religious preferences
- Based on a meal plan provided by a professional resource (such as the State Department of Education, the USDA, the Alliance for a Healthier Generation, or The Lunch Box)

**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

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- Post information on the nutritional content and ingredients of school meals on menus in the cafeteria, on the District website and/or websites of individual schools, and/or in school newsletters.
- 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 provide sufficient lunch periods that are long enough to give all students (K-12) adequate time to be served and eat their lunches.

- 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.

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.

Other Foods Provided at School

Other foods and beverages provided (not sold) on campus (e.g., for classroom parties and celebrations) will be supportive of healthy eating. 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 (e.g., the USDA's resources on "Healthy Celebrations") and afterschool programming (including 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 District, however, may allow exemptions for up to thirty fundraisers during the school year, during which the foods and beverages sold are not required to meet the Smart Snack standards. Importantly, these exempted fundraisers cannot be held during normal meal service times.

The following will also occur:

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

**After-School Concessions and Fundraisers:** At least 10 percent of foods and beverages offered during after-school concessions or as part of fundraisers held outside of school hours must comply with the USDA's Smart Snack standards.

**CHILD NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM**Nutrition Education

Schools will offer nutrition education to all grades (K-12), providing students the knowledge and skills necessary for lifelong healthy eating behaviors, including the following:

- What it means to eat healthfully, consume the proper nutrients, and maintain a wholesome and balanced
- How to read labels and understand the problems associated with unhealthy food marketing to children.
- In addition, schools will ensure that nutrition education:
  - Complies with state learning objectives and standards.
  - Provides opportunities for students to practice and apply the skills and knowledge taught in the classroom (e.g., by using the cafeteria as a learning lab, visiting local farms, etc.).
  - Is made available for staff.
  - 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.

Food and Beverage Marketing

Only foods and beverages that meet the USDA's Smart Snacks standards may be marketed in schools.

Marketing includes the following:

- Advertising on any property or facility owned or leased by the school district or school and used at any time for school-related activities (including school buildings, athletic fields, parking lots, school buses, vending machines, scoreboards, uniforms, educational materials, and supplies).
- Coupons, discounts, and corporate incentive programs that reward students (e.g., when they reach certain academic goals) with free or discounted items.
- Corporate-sponsored programs that provide funds to schools in exchange for consumer purchases of certain items.

**CHILD NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM****PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY**General Requirements

The District will ensure that all elementary school students (K-5) participate in a minimum of 60 minutes of physical activity each week, whether through physical education, exercise programs, after-school athletics, fitness breaks, recess, classroom activities, or wellness and nutrition education.

Continue to use Local policy statements from old policy

**OTHER ACTIVITIES THAT PROMOTE SCHOOL WELLNESS**Staff Wellness

The District recognizes that employee health is essential to student health and to creating healthy school environments. Accordingly, the District will implement an employee wellness program that promotes healthy eating, physical activity, and overall health. The District may partner with community agencies and organizations (e.g., local health departments, hospitals, health insurance companies, and local chapters of national organizations, such as the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, Red Cross, and YMCA) to assist in providing education, services, and resources for staff.

The District will do the following to support staff wellness:

Nutrition

- Provide employees with access to a refrigerator, microwave, and sink with a water faucet.
- Provide or partner with community organizations or agencies to offer nutrition education through activities such as seminars, workshops, classes, meetings, and newsletters.
- Partner with community organizations or agencies to offer staff accessible and free or low-cost healthy eating/weight management programs.

Physical Activity

- Promote walking meetings.
- Provide access to on-campus athletic facilities, such as gyms and basketball courts.
- Promote employee participation in physical activity by creating exercise clubs or groups and/or sponsoring employee sports teams.
- Use posters, pamphlets, and other forms of communication to promote physical activity (including stairwell use, if applicable).
- Provide information about local physical activity resources and facilities, such as walking trails, community parks, and recreation facilities.

**CHILD NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM**General Wellness

- Partner with community organizations or agencies to offer voluntary health screenings to staff, including free or low-cost health assessments.
- Partner with community organizations or agencies to provide stress management programs to staff.
- Promote tobacco prevention and provide referral information on cessation services through the Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline.
- Partner with community organizations or agencies to offer immunization clinics (e.g., flu, Tdap, etc.) to staff.
- Provide or partner with community organizations or agencies to offer free or low-cost first aid and CPR training.

Professional Development

The District will provide staff with educational resources and annual training in health and health-related topics.

Health Education

Where applicable, schools' health education curriculums will follow the Oklahoma Academic Standards.

The District will designate the principals at each site to facilitate the development of the local school wellness policy, oversee appropriate updates to the policy, and ensure each school's compliance with the policy. The District will ensure that the designated official(s) fully understand(s) the federal and state laws related to wellness policies.

Community Involvement

The District will permit parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, physical education teachers, school health professionals, the school board, school administrators, and the general public to serve on the local school wellness policy committee and participate in the development, implementation, review, and update of the local school wellness policy. To encourage broad public participation in the process, the District will do the following:

- Actively notify parents and the broader community about the content and implementation of as well as any changes to the wellness policy, whether through electronic communications (e.g., email, District website, etc.), non-electronic means (e.g., mailings, presentations, etc.), or both.
- Ensure that all outreach and communication is culturally appropriate and translated as needed.
- Educate community stakeholders on how they can participate in the development, implementation, review, and update of the wellness policy and let them know why their participation is important to the health and wellness of students and the broader community.

Curriculum

The Amber-Pocasset 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

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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. The superintendent shall 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 complies with state and federal law.

**Child Nutrition Program**

The Amber-Pocasset 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.

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.

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

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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.***