

# policy

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
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## WELLNESS

As required by law, the Board of Education establishes the following wellness policy for the Gibraltar Area School District 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;

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- 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 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.

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The District Administrator 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:

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.

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

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

1. Physical Education

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.

2. Physical Activity



1. Physical activity shall not be employed as a form of discipline or punishment.
2. All students in grades K- 6 shall be provided with a daily recess period. Denial of recess may be used as a punishment.



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- C. With regard to other school-based activities the District shall:
1. The school shall provide attractive, clean environments in which the students eat.
  2. Activities, such as tutoring or club meetings, shall not be scheduled during mealtimes, unless students may eat during those meetings.
  3. Students, parents, and other community members shall have access to, and be encouraged to use, the school's outdoor physical activity facilities outside the normal school day.
  4. An organized wellness program shall be available to all staff.
  5. The schools may use environmentally friendly practices, such as the use of locally grown foods and non-disposable tableware and dishes.
  6. 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.
  7. Schools in the Gibraltar School District utilize electronic identification and payment systems, therefore, eliminating any stigma or identification of students eligible to receive free and/or reduced meals.
  8. Students are discouraged from sharing their foods or beverages with one another during meal times, given concerns about allergies and other restrictions on some students' diets.
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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.

The District Administrator shall be responsible for informing the public, including parents, students and community members, on the content and implementation of this policy. In order to inform the public, the Superintendent shall post the wellness policy on the District's website, including the assessment of the implementation of the policy prepared by the District.



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Review of this policy shall occur as needed, by a committee appointed by the Board, consisting of a representative(s) of the Board, the administration, the food service provider, the parents, the students, and the public. The committee shall provide the Board with any recommended changes to this policy.

42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.  
42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.

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