

INTERBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT

Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Student Wellness
Code	246
Status	Active
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Purpose

The Interboro School District recognizes that student wellness and proper nutrition are related to students' physical well-being, growth, development and readiness to learn. The Board is committed to providing a school environment that promotes student wellness, proper nutrition, nutrition education and promotion, and regular physical activity as part of the total learning experience. In a healthy school environment, students will learn about and participate in positive dietary and lifestyle practices that can improve student achievement.

Authority

The Board adopts this policy based on the recommendations of the Wellness Committee and in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

To ensure the health and well-being of all students, the Board establishes that the district shall provide to students:

1. A comprehensive nutrition program consistent with federal and state requirements.
2. Access at reasonable cost to foods and beverages that meet established nutritional guidelines.
3. Physical education courses and opportunities for developmentally appropriate physical activity during the school day.
4. Curriculum and programs for grades K-12 that are designed to educate students about proper nutrition and lifelong physical activity, in accordance with State Board of Education curriculum regulations and academic standards.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for the implementation and oversight of this policy to ensure each of the district's schools, programs and curriculum is compliant with this policy, related policies and established guidelines or administrative regulations.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

Each building principal or designee shall annually report to the Superintendent or designee regarding compliance in his/her school.[\[2\]](#)

Staff members responsible for programs related to school wellness shall report to the Superintendent or designee regarding the status of such programs.

The Superintendent/Director of Finance shall annually report to the Board on the district's compliance with law and policies related to school wellness. The report may include:

1. Assessment of school environment regarding school wellness issues.

2. Evaluation of food services program.
3. Review of all foods and beverages sold in schools for compliance with established nutrition guidelines.
4. Activities and programs conducted to promote nutrition and physical activity.
5. Recommendations for policy and/or program revisions.
6. Suggestions for improvement in specific areas.
7. Feedback received from district staff, students, parents/guardians, community members and the Wellness Committee.

An assurance that district guidelines for reimbursable meals are not less restrictive than regulations and guidelines issued for schools in accordance with federal law shall be provided annually by the Director of Finance.

The Superintendent or designee and the established Wellness Committee shall conduct an assessment at least once every three (3) years on the contents and implementation of this policy as part of a continuous improvement process to strengthen the policy and ensure implementation. This triennial assessment shall be made available to the public in an accessible and easily understood manner and include:[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

1. The extent to which each district school is in compliance with law and policies related to school wellness.
2. The extent to which this policy compares to model wellness policies.
3. A description of the progress made by the district in attaining the goals of this policy.

At least once every three (3) years, the district shall update or modify this policy as needed, based on the results of the most recent triennial assessment and/or as district and community needs and priorities change; wellness goals are met; new health science, information and technologies emerge; and new federal or state guidance or standards are issued.[\[2\]](#)

The district shall annually inform and update the public, including parents/guardians, students, and others in the community, about the contents, updates and implementation of this policy via the district website, student handbooks, newsletters, posted notices and/or efficient communication methods. This annual notification shall include information on how to access the School Wellness policy; information about the most recent triennial assessment; information on how to participate in the development, implementation and periodic review and update of the School Wellness policy; and a means of contacting Wellness Committee leadership.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

Guidelines

Recordkeeping

The district shall retain records documenting compliance with the requirements of the School Wellness policy, which shall include:[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)

1. The written School Wellness policy.
2. Documentation demonstrating that the district has informed the public, on an annual basis, about the contents of the School Wellness policy and any updates to the policy.
3. Documentation of efforts to review and update the School Wellness policy, including who is involved in the review and methods used by the district to inform the public of their ability to participate in the review.
4. Documentation demonstrating the most recent assessment on the implementation of the School Wellness policy and notification of the assessment results to the public.

Wellness Committee

The district shall establish a Wellness Committee comprised of, but not necessarily limited to, at least one (1) of each of the following: School Board member, district administrator, district food service representative, student, parent/guardian, school health professional, physical education teacher and member of the public. It shall be the goal that committee membership will include representatives from each school building and reflect the diversity of the community. In addition, the following shall be part of the committee:[\[1\]](#)

1. Teachers.

2. School nurses.
3. Food Service Management Company (FSMC).
4. Athletic Director.
5. Any recommendations made by the Superintendent.

The Wellness Committee shall serve as an advisory committee regarding student health issues and shall be responsible for developing, implementing and periodically reviewing and updating a School Wellness policy that complies with law to recommend to the Board for adoption.

The Wellness Committee shall review and consider evidence-based strategies and techniques in establishing goals for nutrition education and promotion, physical activity and other school based activities that promote student wellness as part of the policy development and revision process.[\[2\]](#)

Nutrition Education

Nutrition education will be provided within the sequential, comprehensive health education program in accordance with State Board of Education curriculum regulations and the academic standards for Health, Safety and Physical Education, and Family and Consumer Sciences.[\[4\]](#)[\[5\]](#)[\[6\]](#)

1. The goal of nutrition education in the district shall teach, model, encourage and support healthy eating by students. Promoting student health and nutrition enhances readiness for learning and increases student achievement.
2. Nutrition education shall provide all students with the knowledge and skills needed to lead healthy lives.
3. Nutrition education lessons and activities shall be age-appropriate.
4. Nutrition curriculum shall teach behavior-focused skills, which may include menu planning, reading nutrition labels and media awareness.
5. Food Service Management Company (FSMC) and nutrition education classes shall cooperate to create a learning laboratory.
6. Nutrition education shall be integrated into other subjects such as math, science, language arts and social sciences to complement but not replace academic standards based on nutrition education.
7. Lifelong lifestyle balance shall be reinforced by linking nutrition education and physical activity.
8. The staff responsible for providing nutrition education shall be properly trained and prepared and shall participate in appropriate professional development. The district shall develop standards for such training and professional development.[\[7\]](#)
9. Nutrition education shall extend beyond the school environment by engaging and involving families and the community.
10. Consistent nutrition messages shall be disseminated and displayed throughout the district, schools, classrooms, cafeterias, homes, community and media.

Nutrition Promotion

Nutrition promotion and education positively influence lifelong eating behaviors by using evidence-based techniques and nutrition messages, and by creating food environments that encourage healthy nutrition choices and encourage participation in school meal programs.

The district aims to teach, encourage and support healthful eating by students. District schools shall promote nutrition by providing appropriate nutrition education in accordance with the Student Wellness policy.

1. District schools shall promote nutrition through the implementation of Farm to School activities, where possible. Activities may include, but not be limited to, the initiation/maintenance of school gardens, taste-testing of local products in the cafeteria and classroom, classroom education about local agriculture and nutrition, field trips to local farms and incorporation of local foods into school meal programs.

2. District staff shall cooperate with agencies and community organizations to provide opportunities for appropriate student projects related to nutrition.
3. District food services personnel shall review and implement research-based behavioral economics techniques in the cafeteria to encourage consumption of more whole grains, fruits, vegetables and legumes, and to decrease plate waste.
4. Consistent nutrition messages shall be disseminated and displayed throughout the district, schools, classrooms, cafeterias, homes, community and media.
5. Consistent nutrition messages shall be demonstrated by avoiding use of unhealthy food items in classroom lesson plans and school staff avoiding eating less healthy food items in front of students.
6. District schools shall offer resources about health and nutrition to encourage parents/guardians to provide healthy meals for their children through newsletter articles, take-home materials or other means.

Physical Activity

1. District schools shall strive to provide opportunities for developmentally appropriate physical activity during the school day for all students.
2. District schools shall contribute to the effort to provide students opportunities to accumulate at least sixty (60) minutes of age-appropriate physical activity daily, as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Opportunities offered at school will augment physical activity outside the school environment, such as outdoor play at home, sports, etc.
3. Students shall participate daily in a variety of age-appropriate physical activities designed to achieve optimal health, wellness, fitness and performance benefits.
4. Age-appropriate physical activity opportunities, such as outdoor and indoor recess; before and after school programs; during lunch; clubs; intramurals; and interscholastic athletics, shall be provided to meet the needs and interests of all students, in addition to planned physical education.
5. A physical and social environment that encourages safe and enjoyable activity for all students shall be maintained.
6. Extended periods of student inactivity, two (2) hours or more, shall be discouraged.
7. Physical activity breaks shall be provided for students during classroom hours.
8. Before and/or after-school programs shall provide developmentally appropriate physical activity for participating children.
9. District schools shall partner with parents/guardians and community members and organizations, such as YMCAs, Boys & Girls Clubs, local and state parks, hospitals, etc., to institute programs that support lifelong physical activity.
10. Physical activity shall not be used or withheld as a form of punishment.
11. District schools shall promote physical activity through encouragement of walking and biking as a means of transportation to and from school.
12. Students and the community shall be encouraged to utilize district-owned physical activity facilities, such as playgrounds and fields, outside school hours in accordance with established district rules.

Physical Education

A sequential physical education program consistent with State Board of Education curriculum regulations and Health, Safety and Physical Education academic standards shall be developed and implemented. All district students will participate in physical education.[5][6][8]

1. Quality physical education instruction that promotes lifelong physical activity and provides instruction in the skills and knowledge necessary for lifelong participation shall be provided.
2. Physical education classes shall be the means through which all students learn, practice and are assessed on developmentally appropriate skills and knowledge necessary for lifelong, health-enhancing physical activity.

3. A comprehensive physical education course of study that focuses on providing students the skills, knowledge and confidence to participate in lifelong, health-enhancing physical activity shall be implemented.
4. A varied and comprehensive curriculum that promotes both team and individual activities and leads to students becoming and remaining physically active for a lifetime shall be provided in the physical education program.
5. Adequate amounts of planned instruction shall be provided in order for students to achieve the proficient level for the Health, Safety and Physical Education academic standards.
6. A local assessment system shall be implemented to track student progress on the Health, Safety and Physical Education academic standards.
7. Students shall be moderately to vigorously active as much time as possible during a physical education class. Documented medical conditions and disabilities shall be accommodated during class.
8. Safe and adequate equipment, facilities and resources shall be provided for physical education courses.
9. Physical education shall be taught by certified health and physical education teachers.
10. Appropriate professional development shall be provided for physical education staff.
11. Physical education classes shall have a teacher-student ratio comparable to those of other courses for safe and effective instruction.
12. Physical activity shall not be used or withheld solely as a form of punishment.

Other School Based Activities

Safe drinking water shall be available and accessible to students, without restriction and at no cost to the student, at all meal periods and throughout the school day.[\[9\]](#)[\[10\]](#)[\[11\]](#)[\[12\]](#)

Nutrition professionals who meet hiring criteria established by the district and in compliance with federal regulations shall administer the school meals program. Professional development and continuing education shall be provided for district nutrition staff, as required by federal regulations.[\[7\]](#)[\[13\]](#)[\[14\]](#)[\[15\]](#)

District schools shall provide adequate space, as defined by the district, for eating and serving school meals.

Students shall be provided a clean and safe meal environment.

Students shall be provided adequate time to eat: ten (10) minutes sit down time for breakfast; twenty (20) minutes sit down time for lunch.

Meal periods shall be scheduled at appropriate hours, as required by federal regulations and as defined by the district.[\[9\]](#)

Students shall have access to hand washing or sanitizing before meals and snacks.

The Food Service Management Company will provide qualified individuals who meet criteria established by the district in administering the school meals program.

Professional development shall be provided for by the Food Service Management Company for the employees of the Food Service Management Company.

Access to the food service operation shall be limited to authorized staff.

Nutrition content of school meals shall be available to students and parents/guardians.

Students and parents/guardians may be involved in menu selections through various means, such as taste testing and surveys.

To the extent possible, the district shall utilize available funding and outside programs to enhance student wellness.

Food shall not be used in the schools as a punishment. Food may be used as a reward as long as it falls within the nutritional guidelines.

The Interboro School District will encourage that snacks served during the school day will make a positive contribution to the children's diet and health, with an emphasis on serving fruits and vegetables as the primary snacks; and water, juice or milk as the primary beverages. The Interboro School District will make available a list of acceptable snacks.

All holiday celebrations will offer healthy snack options for students. More specific guideline are available in the administrative regulations attached to this policy.

Birthdays will be celebrated with non-food items. More specific guidelines are available in the administrative regulations attached to the policy.

The district shall provide appropriate training to all staff on the components of the School Wellness policy. Employees of the Food Service Management Company will also receive appropriate training.

Goals of the School Wellness policy shall be considered in planning all school based activities.

Fundraising projects submitted for approval shall be supportive of healthy eating and wellness.

Administrators, teachers, food service personnel, students, parents/guardians and community members shall be encouraged to serve as positive role models through district programs, communications and outreach efforts.

The district shall support the efforts of parents/guardians to provide a healthy diet and daily physical activity for children by communicating relevant information through various methods.

The district shall maintain a healthy school environment including indoor air quality, to optimize conditions for learning and minimize potential health risks to students, in accordance with the district's school environmental health program and applicable laws and regulations.

All information will be accessible through the district's webpage.

Nutrition Guidelines for All Foods/Beverages at School

All foods and beverages available in district schools during the school day shall be offered to students with consideration for promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity.

Foods and beverages provided through the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs shall comply with established federal nutrition standards under the School Meals Initiative.[\[9\]](#)[\[10\]](#)[\[13\]](#)[\[14\]](#)

Foods and beverages offered or sold at school-sponsored events outside the school day, such as athletic events and dances, shall offer healthy alternatives in addition to more traditional fare.

Competitive Foods/Beverages -

Competitive foods available for sale shall meet or exceed the established federal nutrition standards (USDA Smart Snacks in School). These standards shall apply in all locations and through all services where foods and beverages are sold to students, which may include, but are not limited to: a la carte options in cafeterias, vending machines, school stores, snack carts and fundraisers.[\[2\]](#)[\[16\]](#)[\[17\]](#)

Competitive foods and beverages are defined as any food or beverage offered or sold to students on school campus during the school day, which are not part of the reimbursable school breakfast or lunch.

For purposes of this policy, **school campus** means any area of property under the jurisdiction of the school that students may access during the school day.[\[2\]](#)[\[16\]](#)

For purposes of this policy, **school day** means the period from midnight before school begins until thirty (30) minutes after the end of the official school day.[\[2\]\[16\]](#)

1. Competitive foods and beverages sold to students in district schools outside of school meal programs shall comply with established federal nutrition standards (USDA Smart Snacks in School).
2. Any exclusive competitive food and/or beverage contract may not be approved by the Board until all requirements of law have been met.[\[18\]](#)
3. Any foods and beverages marketed or promoted to students on the school campus during the school day shall meet or exceed the established federal nutrition standards (USDA Smart Snacks in School) and comply with established Board policy and administrative regulations.[\[2\]\[16\]](#)

Fundraiser Exemptions -

Fundraising activities held during the school day involving the sale of competitive foods shall be limited to foods that meet the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, unless an exemption is approved in accordance with applicable Board policy and administrative regulations.[\[19\]](#)

Any fundraising activities that include the selling of food shall be regulated by the Smart Snacks in Schools Standards, must be approved by the building administrator, and be on file in the Business Office.[\[16\]\[17\]](#)

1. A **fundraiser** is considered an event that includes an activity in which currency/token/tickets, etc. are exchanged for the sale/purchase of a product in support of the school or school-related activities. Examples include bake sales, candy bar sales or vending machines where profits are used to support a school-sponsored club or activity, such as the school band or sports team.
2. State agencies that oversee the School Nutrition Programs have the option of permitting a limited number of food fundraisers that do not meet the Smart Snacks standards. These food fundraisers are referred to as **exempt fundraisers** because they include the sale of foods/beverages that do not comply with Smart Snacks standards.
3. The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has established that a maximum of five (5) exempt fundraisers will be permitted in each elementary and middle school building, and a maximum of ten (10) exempt fundraisers will be permitted in high school buildings beginning in the 2014-15 school year, and thereafter as determined by PDE. Each exempt fundraiser may not exceed one (1) school week in length and may share profits from the fundraiser. For example: the student council may run a fundraiser for a week and distribute the profits among all other student activity clubs who helped participate. **Exempt fundraisers** are fundraisers in which competitive foods are available for sale to students that do not meet the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards.[\[16\]](#)
4. The Interboro School District shall establish administrative regulations to implement fundraising activities in district schools, including procedures for requesting a fundraiser exemption, to ensure the number of exempt fundraisers does not exceed the maximum allowed for the school year per school. During any administrative reviews PDE conducts to monitor compliance of the School Nutrition Programs, it will ensure that schools are compliant with fundraiser exemptions. Documentation will be needed.
5. It is important to remember that these exemptions only apply to fundraisers that do not meet the requirements for foods sold in school in the Smart Snacks standards. Non-food fundraisers and food fundraisers that meet the requirements of the Smart Snacks standards do not require an exemption. Exempt fundraisers may not be sold in the food service area during any meal period. Smart Snacks standards only apply to foods sold to students during the school day. The school day is defined as midnight before until thirty (30) minutes after the end of the official school day. Therefore, the Smart Snacks standards do not apply to foods and beverages sold at events held after school, off campus, or on weekends, such as school plays or sporting events. In addition, fundraising activities that take place outside of school, such as cookie dough or frozen pizza sales, are exempt from the nutrition standards. Distribution of order forms and foods not intended for consumption at school may continue.

Non-Sold Competitive Foods-

Non-sold competitive foods available to students, which may include but are not limited to foods and beverages offered as rewards and incentives, at classroom parties and celebrations, or as shared classroom snacks, shall meet or exceed the standards established by the district.

If the offered competitive foods do not meet or exceed the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards, the following standards shall apply:

1. Rewards and Incentives:

- a. Foods and beverages shall not be used as a reward for classroom or school activities unless the reward is an activity that promotes a positive nutrition message (e.g., guest chef, field trip to a farm or farmers market, etc.).

2. Classroom Parties and Celebrations:

- a. Only non-food based parties and celebrations shall occur on the school campus during the school day in district schools.
- b. Parents/Guardians shall be informed through efficient communication methods that foods/beverages should only be brought in when requested for scheduled parties.
- c. Classroom parties shall offer a minimal amount of foods (maximum 2-3 items) containing sugar as the primary ingredient (e.g., cupcakes, cookies) and will provide the following:
 - Fresh fruits/vegetables; and
 - Water, 100 percent juice, 100 percent juice diluted with water, low-fat milk or nonfat milk.

Marketing/Contracting-

Any foods and beverages marketed or promoted to students on the school campus during the school day shall meet or exceed the established federal nutrition standards (USDA Smart Snacks in School) and comply with established Board policy and administrative regulations.[\[2\]](#)[\[16\]](#)

Exclusive competitive food and/or beverage contracts shall be approved by the Board, in accordance with provisions of law. Existing contracts shall be reviewed and modified to the extent feasible to ensure compliance with established federal nutrition standards, including applicable marketing restrictions.[\[18\]](#)

Management of Food Allergies in District Schools

The district will establish Board policy and administrative regulations relating to food allergy management in district schools in order to:[\[20\]](#)

1. Reduce and/or eliminate the likelihood of severe or potentially life-threatening allergic reactions.
2. Ensure a rapid and effective response in case of a severe or potentially life-threatening allergic reaction.
3. Protect the rights of students by providing them, through necessary accommodations when required, the opportunity to participate fully in all school programs and activities.

Safe Routes to School

The district shall assess and, to the extent possible, implement improvements to make walking and biking to school safer and easier for students.

The district shall cooperate with local municipalities, public safety agency, police departments and community organizations to develop and maintain safe routes to school.

District administrators shall seek and utilize available federal and state funding for safe routes to school, when appropriate.

- Legal
- [1. 42 U.S.C. 1758b](#)
 - [2. 7 CFR 210.31](#)
 - [3. 7 CFR 210.15](#)
 - [4. 24 P.S. 1513](#)
 5. Pol. 102

6. Pol. 105
7. Pol. 808
[8. 24 P.S. 1512.1](#)
[9. 7 CFR 210.10](#)
[10. 7 CFR 220.8](#)
[11. 24 P.S. 701](#)
[12. 24 P.S. 742](#)
[13. 42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq](#)
[14. 42 U.S.C. 1773](#)
[15. 7 CFR 210.30](#)
[16. 7 CFR 210.11](#)
[17. 7 CFR 220.12](#)
[18. 24 P.S. 504.1](#)
19. Pol. 229
20. Pol. 209.1
[24 P.S. 1337.1](#)
[24 P.S. 1422](#)
[24 P.S. 1422.3](#)
[P.L. 111-296](#)
[7 CFR Part 210](#)
[7 CFR Part 220](#)
Pol. 103
Pol. 103.1

[246 - exhibit B.pdf \(91 KB\)](#)

[246-AR-0-NutritionEducationAndPromotion.pdf \(87 KB\)](#)

[246-AR-4-SchoolBasedActivities.pdf \(82 KB\)](#)

[246-AR-5-SafeRtesToSchool.pdf \(75 KB\)](#)

[246-AR-6-HealthySchoolEnvironment \(1\).pdf \(141 KB\)](#)