

8000 NON-INSTRUCTION OPERATION

8007 Nutrition Program

8007.1 Child Nutrition and Wellness Policy

BLISS JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 234

Local School Wellness

It is the goal of the Bliss Joint School District to strive to make a significant contribution to the general well-being, mental and physical capacity, and learning ability of each student and afford them the opportunity to fully participate in the education process. The Bliss Joint School District promotes healthy schools by supporting wellness, good nutrition, and regular physical activity as a part of the total learning environment. The District supports a healthy environment where children learn and participate in positive dietary and lifestyle practices. By facilitating learning through the support and promotion of good nutrition and physical activity, our school contributes to the basic health status of children. Improved health optimizes student performance potential and ensures that no child is left behind.

Healthy eating is demonstrably linked to reduced risk for mortality and development of many chronic diseases as adults.

The Board directs the Superintendent to inform and update the public, including parents, students, and others in the community, about the content and implementation of the wellness policy. Such information may be provided on the District website, through dissemination of student handbooks, or in any other manner the Superintendent may deem appropriate.

Definition

For the purposes of this policy the school day is defined as thirty (30) minutes before to thirty (30) minutes after the end of the instructional school day.

Goals for Wellness Promotion

To ensure the health and well being of all students, it is the policy of the District to:

1. Ensure that all children have access to adequate and healthy food choices on scheduled school days.

2. Ensure that foods sold at school during the school day meet or exceed the nutritional standards required by National School Lunch Program, the National School Breakfast Program, and the Smart Snacks in Schools standards. Exceptions can be made for infrequent food sales fundraisers that occur no more than the number of times determined appropriate by the Idaho State Department of Education during the school year and are not held during school meal times;
3. Ensure that non-exempt fundraising food sales will not occur on school grounds during the school day. The District operates under United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) program regulations of the National School Lunch Program, National School Breakfast Program, and the Smart Snacks in Schools standards. This includes food sold during the school day in school stores, vending machines, and other venues. (Note: There are many healthy fundraising options available to schools including selling books, fresh produce, school spirit merchandise, or other non-food items during the school day. Fundraising activities that take place outside of school, such as frozen pizza sales, are exempt from the nutrition standards);
4. Food at parties held for students during the school day must adhere to the Smart Snacks in School nutrition guidelines;
5. Support and promote dietary habits contributing to students' health and academic performance. All foods available on school grounds and at school-sponsored activities during the school day should meet or exceed USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards. Wholesome foods produced in Idaho should be available and actively promoted in a healthy school environment. Emphasis should be placed on foods that are nutrient dense per calorie. Foods should be served with consideration toward variety, appeal, taste, safety, and packaging to ensure high quality meals;
6. Provide a comprehensive learning environment for developing and practicing lifelong wellness behaviors including good nutrition and regular physical activity;
7. Coordinate school food service with the healthy lifestyles policy to reinforce messages about healthy eating and to ensure that foods offered promote good nutrition and contribute to the development of lifelong, healthy eating habits;
8. Promote healthy eating patterns through classroom nutrition education coordinated with the comprehensive health education program including education, health, and food services;
9. Provide District staff with adequate pre-service and ongoing in-service training that focuses on strategies for behavioral change; and
10. Involve family members and the community in supporting and reinforcing nutrition education and the promotion of healthy eating and lifestyles.

Nutrition Standards

To promote student health and reduce childhood obesity, the District urges all schools within the District to comply with the nutrition standards established by the USDA with respect to all food that is available on school grounds during the school day.

Community Participation

Parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, the school board, school administrators, and the general public are all permitted to participate in the development, implementation, and periodic review of this policy.

The Superintendent shall periodically measure and make available to the public an assessment on the implementation of this policy including:

1. The extent to which schools under the jurisdiction of the District are in compliance with the wellness policy;
2. The extent to which the District's wellness policy compares to model local school wellness policies; and
3. A description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy.

Methods of providing this information to the public may include developing or disseminating printed or electronic materials to families of school children and other members of the school community at the beginning of the school year, or posting the local wellness policies and an assessment of their implementation on the District or school website.

Monitoring Compliance

The Superintendent shall designate one or more District officials or school officials to ensure that each school complies with this policy.

Legal Reference: Sec. 204, Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004
 Pub.L. 111-296 Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010
 7 CFR Parts 210 Nutrition School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs: Final Rule
 Smart Snacks in School Regulations by the United States Department of Agriculture

Other Reference: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/legislation/allfoods.htm>

Policy History:

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