

The board recognizes that it is important for students to maintain their physical health and receive proper nutrition in order to take advantage of educational opportunities. The board further recognizes that student wellness and proper nutrition are related to a student's 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 regular physical activity as part of the total learning experience. As part of that commitment, the board directs the superintendent to oversee the development, implementation, and ongoing evaluation of this policy and other school system efforts to encourage students to be healthy and active, including compliance with the State Board of Education's Healthy Active Children Policy, SHLT-000, as further described in Section F, below. The superintendent may designate a school system official to carry out this responsibility ("lead wellness official").

The superintendent or designee shall make the most current version of this policy available to members of the school community and the public by posting it on the school system website and/or by distributing it annually through other means reasonably intended to reach the school community and public. In addition, the superintendent or designee shall provide a copy of this policy to the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) when requested to do so.

A. SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

The board will maintain a school health advisory council to help plan, update, implement, promote, and monitor this policy as well as to address other health and nutrition issues within the school system. The council serves as an advisory committee regarding student health issues and works in conjunction with the lead wellness official charged with oversight of this policy and the school system's efforts to promote student and employee health and wellness in compliance with state and federal requirements. The council is authorized to examine related research and laws, assess student needs and the current school environment, review existing board policies and administrative regulations, collaborate with appropriate community agencies and organizations, and help raise awareness about student health issues. The council also may make policy recommendations to the board related to this policy and other policies concerning student wellness and in conjunction with the lead wellness official, shall periodically review and suggest revisions to this policy. In addition, the council may assist in the development of a plan for measuring and assessing implementation of this policy and in developing methods to inform and update the public about the content and implementation of this policy as described in Sections F and G, below.

The council will be composed of representatives from the school system, the local health department, and the community. The council must include members of each of the following groups: the school board, school system administrators, school system food service representatives, physical education teachers, school health professionals, students, parents or guardians, and the public. The council will provide information to the board about the following areas or concerns: (1) physical activity, (2) health education, (3)

employee wellness, (4) health services, (5) social and emotional climate, (6) nutrition environment and services, (7) counseling, psychological, and social services, (8) physical environment, (9) family engagement, and (10) community involvement.

The council shall provide periodic reports to the board and public regarding the status of its work. In addition, the council shall assist the lead wellness official in creating an annual report that includes the minutes of physical activity and the minutes of physical education and/or healthful living education received by students in the system each school year, as well as any other information required by the State Board of Education or NCDPI.

B. NUTRITION PROMOTION AND NUTRITION EDUCATION

The board believes that promoting student health and nutrition enhances readiness for learning and increases student achievement. The general goals of nutrition promotion and nutrition education are (1) to provide appropriate instruction for the acquisition of behaviors that contribute to a healthy lifestyle for students and (2) to teach, encourage, and support healthy eating by students.

The board will provide nutrition education within the Healthful Living Standard Course of Study and the grade level expectations outlined in the Healthful Living Essential Standards adopted by the State Board of Education. Nutrition education should be designed to provide all students with the knowledge and skills needed to lead healthy lives. Students should learn to address nutrition-related health concerns through age-appropriate nutrition education lessons and activities.

Nutrition education and promotion should extend beyond the school environment by engaging and involving families and communities. School system personnel may coordinate with agencies and community organizations to provide opportunities for appropriate student projects related to nutrition. School system personnel are to work to disseminate and promote consistent nutrition messages throughout the school system, schools, classrooms, school dining areas, homes, community, and media.

In conjunction with the school health advisory council, the board establishes the following additional specific evidence-based goals and strategies for nutrition promotion and education. The board will periodically measure and report progress toward meeting these goals.

Caswell County Schools Nutrition Education Goals:

- Nutrition education that aligns with national dietary guidelines and adheres to state academic standards will be incorporated into health education classes and/or stand-alone courses for all grade levels.
- Nutrition educational activities will be provided that are enjoyable, developmentally-appropriate, culturally-relevant, and participatory activities offered, such as: cooking

- demonstrations or lessons, promotions, taste-testing, farm visits, and school gardens;
- Nutrition education will be linked with school meal programs, cafeteria nutrition promotion activities, school gardens, Farm to School Programs, other school foods and nutrition-related community services;
 - Nutrition education will be provided to families via handouts, newsletters, website posts as included on school monthly menus.

Caswell County Schools Nutrition Promotion Goals:

- To promote participation in Federal Child Nutrition Programs among students and families to help ensure that families know what programs are available in their children's school;
- To offer school meals that are: accessible to all students; appealing and attractive to children; served in clean and pleasant settings;
- To meet or exceed current nutrition requirements established by local, state, and Federal statutes and regulations;
- To promote fruits, vegetables, whole-grain products, low-fat and fat-free dairy products, and healthy food preparation methods;
- To offer school meals that include whole fruit options daily;
- To display fruit options in a location in the line of sight and reach of students;
- To offer alternative entrée options (e.g., chef salad option, etc.) and indicate alternative menu options on posters or signs within all service and dining areas;
- To make drinking water available where school meals are served during mealtimes;
- To offer a reimbursable meal in any service area available to students;
- To post monthly menus on the District website;
- To provide nutrient content and ingredients upon request;
- To submit menu information for review by a Registered Dietitian or other certified nutrition professional;
- To accommodate students with special dietary needs;
- To ensure that students are served lunch at a reasonable and appropriate time of day;
- To allow students at least 10 minutes to eat breakfast and at least 20 minutes to eat lunch, counting from the time they have received their meal and are seated;
- To encourage that school meal programs are administered by a team of child nutrition professionals- (All school nutrition program directors, managers, and staff will meet or exceed hiring and annual continuing education/training requirements in the USDA professional standards for child nutrition professionals);
- To properly train all staff members, especially those serving, to politely prompt students to select and consume the daily vegetable options with their meal.

C. NUTRITION STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR ALL FOOD AND BEVERAGES AVAILABLE AT SCHOOL

Consistent with policy 950, Goals of School Nutrition Services, all foods available in the system's schools during the school day that are offered to students should help promote student health, reduce childhood obesity, provide a variety of nutritional meals, and promote lifelong healthy eating habits. All foods and beverages sold at school must meet the nutrition standards established in policy 950, School Meal and Competitive Foods Standards, including the following:

1. School Lunch, Breakfast, and Snack Programs

Foods provided through the National School Lunch, School Breakfast, or After School Snack Programs must comply with federal and state nutrition standards. The director of child nutrition shall ensure that school system guidelines for reimbursable meals are not less restrictive than regulations and guidelines issued for schools in accordance with federal law.

2. Competitive Foods

All foods sold on school campuses in areas that are accessible to students during the school day (defined as the period from midnight through 30 minutes after the dismissal bell rings) in competition with the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs ("competitive foods") must comply with the federal Smart Snacks in Schools standards. Competitive foods include food, snacks, and beverages from a la carte menus, vending machines, and outside suppliers, as well as foods or beverages sold in school stores and at fund-raisers. Vending machine sales also must comply with the requirements of G.S. 115C-264.2 and *Eat Smart: North Carolina's Recommended Standards for All Foods in Schools*.

3. Other Foods Available on the School Campus During the School Day and After the School Day

School principals shall establish rules for foods and beverages brought from home for classroom events or parties during the school day or for extracurricular activities after the school day. The board encourages principals to establish rules that are consistent with the Smart Snacks in Schools standards.

Fundraising activities that involve the sale of foods and/or beverages to students during the school day (from midnight until 30 minutes after the dismissal bell rings) must comply with the Smart Snack Rules and may not be conducted until after the end of the last lunch period. See policy 950, School Meal and Competitive Foods Standards.

School principals may establish standards for fund-raising activities conducted after the school day (beginning 31 minutes after the dismissal bell rings) that

involve the sale of food and/or beverages. The board encourages alternative fundraising activities such as non-food items or physical activity.

4. Food and Beverage Marketing

- Food and beverage marketing on school campuses during the school day must meet federal and state standards. In accordance with these standards, only foods and beverages that meet the Smart Snack standards (as described in subsection C.2, above) may be marketed or advertised on school campuses during the school day. To comply with this requirement, existing supplies, materials, or equipment that depict noncompliant products or logos will be replaced or removed in accordance with normal lifecycles or as otherwise would occur in the normal course of business

In addition, in an effort to promote student wellness, the following guidelines will be adhered to in Caswell County Schools:

- Fast-food promotion and packaging will not be allowed during student breakfast, snack, and lunch times, as well as any special celebrations that occur on school campus during the instructional school day. This applies to students, school staff, and school visitors. If a meal from a fast-food establishment is provided from home for students, the food must not be packaged in restaurant wrappers/containers. (*See Caswell Co. Board Policy 952*)
- Schools are encouraged to use incentives and rewards that do not include food when rewarding and recognizing students. If edible rewards are offered, they should be of high nutritional value.
- To promote hydration, free, safe, unflavored drinking water will be available to all students throughout the school day and throughout every school campus.
- In addition, the district will allow students to bring and carry (approved) water bottles filled with only water with them throughout the day.
- All water sources and containers will be maintained on a regular basis to ensure good hygiene standards. Such sources and containers may include drinking fountains, water jugs, hydration stations, and other methods for delivering drinking water.

D. PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

1. Goals of the Physical Education Program

The goal of the physical education program is to promote lifelong physical activity and provide instruction in the skills and knowledge necessary for lifelong participation in physical activity. To address issues such as obesity, cardiovascular disease, and Type II diabetes, students enrolled in kindergarten through eighth grade must have the opportunity to participate in physical activity as part of the system's physical education curriculum. The goal for elementary schools is to provide 150 minutes weekly of quality physical education with a certified physical education teacher. The goal for middle schools is to provide 225 minutes weekly of Healthful Living Education, divided equally between health and physical education with certified health and physical education teachers.

2. The Physical Education Course

The physical education course should be designed to foster support and guidance for being physically active, help students know and understand the value of being physically fit, and teach students the types of activities that contribute to total fitness. The course is to be taught in an environment where students can learn, practice, and receive assessment on developmentally appropriate skills and knowledge as defined in the North Carolina Healthful Living Standard Course of Study. Students should be engaged in moderate to vigorous physical activity for fifty percent or more of class time. Class for physical education should be equivalent in size to those of other academic classes.

3. Physical Activity Requirements and Goals

School personnel should strive to provide opportunities for age- and developmentally-appropriate physical activity during the day for all students so that students can learn how to maintain a physically active lifestyle. Schools must provide a minimum of 30 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity daily for kindergarten through eighth-grade students. Such activity may be achieved through a regular daily physical education class as described in Sections D.1 and D.2 above, or through recess, dance, classroom energizers and/or other curriculum-based physical activity programs of at least 10 minutes duration, that, when combined, total 30 minutes of daily physical activity. Principals shall work with teachers to ensure that students meet the minimum physical activity requirement. The board will periodically measure and report progress toward meeting these goals.

To ensure that students have ongoing opportunities for physical activity and maintain a positive attitude towards physical activity, structured/unstructured recess and other physical activity may not be taken away from students as a form of punishment. In addition, severe and inappropriate exercise may not be used as a form of punishment for students.

In conjunction with the school health advisory council, the board establishes the following additional specific evidence-based goals and strategies for physical activity:

- The District will ensure that school grounds and facilities, including equipment, are inspected yearly and as needed to promote safety and availability for students.
- The physical activity should be moderate to vigorous and can occur outside when temperatures are 40 to 90 degrees and weather conditions permit outside activity.
- In the event that the school or district must conduct indoor recess, teachers and staff will follow the indoor recess guidelines that promote physical activity for students, to the extent practicable.
- Recess will complement, not substitute, physical education class. Recess monitors or teachers will encourage students to be active, and are encouraged to serve as role models by being physically active alongside the students whenever feasible.

E. OTHER SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE WELLNESS

In addition to the standards discussed above, the board adopts the following goals for school-based activities designed to promote wellness:

1. To the extent possible, the school system will utilize available funding and outside programs to enhance student wellness.
2. As appropriate, the goals of this wellness policy will be considered in planning all school-based activities.
3. Administrators, teachers, school nutrition personnel, students, parents or guardians, and community members will be encouraged to serve as positive role models to promote student wellness.
4. Each school employee may complete a voluntary health questionnaire and that information will be maintained in the health office in case of emergency.
5. Designated employees will be trained every two years in CPR and AED use. Automatic External Defibrillators shall be maintained appropriately.
6. The District will continue relationships with community partners in support of this wellness policy's implementation. Existing and new community partnerships and sponsorships will be evaluated to ensure that they are consistent with the wellness policy and its goals.

F. IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW OF POLICY

1. Oversight and Monitoring of Implementation and Progress

The lead wellness official, in conjunction with the school health advisory council, shall oversee the implementation of this policy and monitor system schools, programs, and curricula to ensure compliance with and to assess progress under this policy, related policies, and established guidelines or administrative regulations. Each principal shall be responsible for and shall report to the lead wellness official regarding compliance and measurements of progress in his or her school. Staff members responsible for programs related to student wellness also shall report to the lead wellness official regarding the status of such programs.

2. Review of Policy

The lead wellness official shall work with members of the school health advisory council to periodically review and update this policy based on the triennial assessment of the school system's compliance with the policy (see subsection F.4, below), progress toward meeting the policy goals, and other relevant factors. The lead wellness official shall document the review process and participants, and the method used to notify the school health advisory council and/or other stakeholders of their ability to participate.

3. Annual Reporting

The lead wellness official shall prepare annual written reports to the superintendent and NCDPI/State Board of Education that provide all information required by the superintendent and/or the state pertaining to the school system's efforts to comply with this policy and SBE policy SHLT-000.

4. Triennial Assessment

Beginning with school year 2017-18, and at least once every three years thereafter, the superintendent or designee shall report to the board and public on the system's compliance with laws and policies related to student wellness, the implementation of this policy, and progress toward meeting the goals of the policy. At a minimum, the superintendent or designee shall measure and report the following:

- 1) the extent to which the individual schools are in compliance with this policy;
- 2) the extent to which the board's wellness policy compares to model local school wellness policies and meets state and federal requirements; and
- 3) a description of the progress made in attaining the goals of this policy.

The report may also include the following items:

- 4) a summary of each school's activities undertaken in support of the policy goals;
- 5) an assessment of the school environment regarding student wellness issues;
- 6) an evaluation of the school nutrition services program;
- 7) a review of all foods and beverages sold in schools for compliance with established nutrition guidelines;
- 8) a review of guidelines for foods and beverages available, but not sold, during the school day, as described in subsection C.3, above;
- 9) information provided in the report from the school health advisory council, as described in Section A, above; and
- 10) suggestions for improvement to this policy or other policies or programs.

SHAC will update or modify the wellness policy based on the results of the annual progress reports, triennial assessments and/or as the board's priorities change; community and technology emerges; and new Federal or State guidance or standards are issued.

G. PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

1. The school system will publish contact information for the lead wellness official on the school system website.
2. The lead wellness official shall assist the school health advisory council with annually informing and updating the public about this policy and its implementation and State Board policy SHLT-000.
3. The superintendent or designee shall make public the results of the triennial assessment described in subsection F.4 of this policy.
4. All information required to be reported under this section and any additional information required by the state to be reported publicly shall be widely disseminated to students, parents, and the community in an accessible and easily understood manner, which may include by posting on the school system website at: www.caswell.k12.nc.us.

H. RECORDKEEPING

The superintendent shall maintain records to document compliance with this policy and all federal and state requirements. Caswell County Schools will use electronic mechanisms, such as email or displaying notices on the district's website, as well as non-electronic mechanisms, such as newsletters, presentations to parents, or information sent home to parents to ensure that all families are actively notified of the content, implementation and updates of the wellness policy, as well as how to get involved and support the policy.

These records, at a minimum, must include:

1. a written copy of this policy and any updates;
2. the most recent triennial assessment for each school;
3. documentation demonstrating:
 - a. the efforts to review and update this policy, as described in subsection F.2 of this policy;
 - b. how this policy and information about the most recent triennial assessments have been made available to the public, as described in Section G;
 - c. compliance with the annual reporting requirements of subsection F.3; and
 - d. other efforts to involve the school health advisory council and/or other community members in the implementation of or assessment of compliance with this policy.

Legal References: Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004, 42 U.S.C. 1751; Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, P.L. 111-296; National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. 1751 *et seq.*; 7 C.F.R. 210.11, 210.12, and 210.31; G.S. 115C-264.2, -264.3; State Board of Education Policies SHLT-000, CHNU-000, CHNU-002; *Eat Smart: North Carolina's Recommended Standards for All Foods in Schools*, N.C. Department of Health and Human Services, N.C. Division of Public Health (2004)

Cross References: Goals of School Nutrition Services (policy 950), School Meal and Competitive Foods Standards (policy 950)

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