

DOWNE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
DISTRICT POLICY MANUAL
BUSINESS & NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS
WELLNESS FOR PUPILS LOCAL WELLNESS/NUTRITION POLICY 3542.1

Date Adopted: 2/26/96

Date Revised: 9/12/2012, 10/16/2007, 11/18/2014, 1/3/2017, 3/19/19

The Board of Education believes that children need access to healthful foods and opportunities to be physically active in order to grow, learn, and thrive, and that good health fosters student attendance and education.

Therefore, the Board of Education is committed to providing school environments that promote and protect children's health, well-being, and ability to learn by supporting healthy eating and physical activity, and will ensure that:

- A. All students will have opportunities, support, and encouragement to be physically active on a regular basis.
- B. Foods and beverages sold or served at school will meet the nutrition recommendations of the *U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010* and the USDA nutrition standards for National School Lunch, School Breakfast and/or After School Snack Programs.
- C. Qualified child nutrition professionals will provide students with access to a variety of affordable, nutritious, and appealing foods that meet the health and nutrition needs of students; will accommodate the religious, ethnic, and cultural diversity of the student body in meal planning; and will provide clean, safe, and pleasant settings and adequate time for students to eat.
- D. Meal periods shall be scheduled at appropriate times (Lunches will be served between 10:00 AM and 2 PM).
- E. All food preparation areas shall have had regular health inspections and received satisfactory approvals.
- F. To the maximum extent practicable, all schools in the district will participate in available federal school meal programs (including the School Breakfast Program, National School Lunch Program including- after-school snacks, Summer Food Service Program, Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program, and Child and Adult Care Food Program).
- G. Schools will provide nutrition education and physical education to foster lifelong habits of healthy eating and physical activity, and will establish linkages between health education and school meal programs, and with related community services.
- H. The Board will engage students, parents, teachers, food service professionals, health professionals, and other interested community members in developing, implementing, monitoring, and reviewing district-wide nutrition and physical activity policies.

Goals for the Promotion for Nutrition Within the District

The following activities will be coordinated within district:

- Age-appropriate materials will be posted where food and beverages are served to students encouraging the value of good nutrition;
- During the school year, the lunch program will have promotional days where at least one (1) new nutritional alternative menu item will be featured as part of the menu pattern meal component;

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- Staff members will promote this nutritional alternative during meals with appropriate hand-outs regarding any nutritional menu item alternative(s);
- The Superintendent/designee will encourage serving food products that meet the nutritional standards of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 when used as an incentive or reward for student accomplishments, club or activity within the school;
- Designated staff members will coordinate obtaining student input on menu planning that will include taste testing of new nutritional food, satisfaction surveys, to promote nutrition awareness;
- Food service staff will place the healthier food items in the service line where students are more likely to choose them;
- Parents/guardians will be provided the nutritional standards of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010;
- Parents/guardians will be encouraged to pack lunches and snacks that meet the nutritional standards as specified in the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.

The Superintendent/designee shall develop procedures and regulations process for measuring the effectiveness for the implementation of this policy. He/she shall also designate personnel with the responsibility for ensuring the school is complying with the policy. In addition, the Superintendent shall designate a district administrator to oversee and ensure that the district complies with the provisions of this policy and that the policy is implemented correctly for beverages offered, including vending machines and the school store(s), if applicable.

Nutritional Education

The Superintendent/designee will ensure that there will be at least one presentation per school year promoting good nutrition and nutrition education. These presentations may be provided through classroom visits from school staff members trained in nutrition, school-wide or group assembly programs, during health/physical education classes during the school year, or any other presentation manner. This requirement may be provided as part of nutrition education provided to students as part of the district's curriculum.

The Superintendent/designee will post the nutritional guidelines of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 where food and beverages are served.

The school lunch menu will include nutritional information, activities, recipes, and/or any other information that encourages the selection of healthy food items.

Physical Activity

In the elementary grades of the district:

- All students shall receive health/physical education under the supervision of a properly certified teacher staff member;
- The Superintendent/designee will ensure there is age-appropriate equipment and supplies available during recess time for students to participate in physical activities;

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- Students will be encouraged by school staff members supervising student recess time to participate in some type of physical activity, which may include, but not be limited to: walking; playing games that require physical activity, such as kickball, volleyball, baseball, basketball, etc.; rope jumping; and/or using playground equipment;
- The Superintendent/designee will encourage classroom teachers to incorporate brief physical activity breaks into the school day to establish an environment that promotes regular physical activity throughout the school day. He/she shall also coordinate special events highlighting physical activity, that may include field days, walk-a-thons, and activity tournaments or competitions;
- The Superintendent/designee may involve parents, community members, and students in the planning of these events.

Other School-Based Activities

The district will establish a Wellness Committee comprised of a variety to stakeholders as deemed necessary by the Superintendent.

The Superintendent/designee will coordinate information being disseminated to students and parents promoting the school lunch program, nutrition, and nutrition education.

The school district will celebrate a School Wellness Week, as determined by the Superintendent/designee and will have special activities throughout the week to promote nutrition and physical activity. These special activities will be planned and coordinated by the Wellness Committee.

The Superintendent/designee will encourage fund-raising activity such as walk-a-thons, teacher-student activity competitions, family activity nights, and school dances.

Progress Reports

The goals for nutrition promotion, nutrition education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that promote student wellness shall be evaluated by the Superintendent/designee and Wellness Committee as needed.

The Progress Report shall present the extent to which the district is in compliance with this policy, recommend changes to the policy, and develop an action plan to achieve the school's goals and objectives.

Guidelines for All Food and Beverages

The Board of Education requires that the district complies with the federal school meal nutrition standards and the smart snacks in accordance with the requirements specified in the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.

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The nutritional standards shall apply to all foods and beverages sold in district as part of the menu pattern meal, a la carte, in school stores, snack bars, or vending machines. The food requirements for any food sold in schools must meet a range of calorie and nutrient requirements as outlined in the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.

The school district will comply with the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 beverage requirements and beverage portion requirements for elementary and middle school students. Portable water shall be made available to children at no charge in place where breakfast, lunch, and afterschool snacks are served during meal service.

On-campus fundraisers involving food or beverage items must meet the Smart Snack standards of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. These nutrition standards do not apply to non-school hours, weekends, and off-campus fundraising events.

The Superintendent shall be responsible to providing support for staff members so they have the skills and knowledge to implement the provisions of this policy.

The Board of Education will support the implementation of nutrition education throughout the school day and during after school programs, in order to promote a consistent message to parents/guardians and students.

Healthy Snack Guidelines

The following additional nutrient requirements shall also apply:

1. Calorie Limits – Snack Items \leq 200 calories; Entrée Items \leq 350 calories
2. Sodium Limits - Snack Items \leq 230 mg.*; Entrée Items \leq 480 mg.
3. Fat Limits - Snack Items \leq 35% of calories; Entrée Items \leq 10% of calories;
Trans fat: zero grams
4. Sugar Limit - \leq 35% of weight from total sugars in foods

* On July 1, 2016, snack items must contain \leq 200 mg. sodium per item.

Accompaniments such as cream cheese, salad dressing and butter must be included in the nutrient profile as part of the food item sold. This helps control the amount of calories, fat, sugar and sodium added to foods.

This policy does not apply to medically authorized special needs diets pursuant to 7 CFR Part 210, school nurses using Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value (FMNV) during the course of providing health care to individual students or special needs students whose Individualized Education Plan (IEP) indicates their use for behavior modification.

Adequate time shall be allowed for student meal service and consumption. Schools shall provide a pleasant dining environment. The Board of Education recommends that physical education or recess be scheduled before lunch whenever possible.

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Notification

At a minimum, a copy of this policy shall be posted in the cafeteria(s), school store(s) and provided to the parent group(s) of the school district.

Parents/guardians shall be provided information supporting the provisions of this policy and promoting healthy choice awareness.

All staff members shall be provided with a copy of this policy annually or following any revision to it.

Legal References:

NJSA 18A:11-1 General mandatory powers and duties

18A:18A-4.1 f.,h. Use of competitive contracting in lieu of public bidding;

18A:18A-6 Standards for purchase of fresh milk; penalties; rules and regulations

18A:33-3 through -5 Cafeterias for pupils

18A:33-9 through -14 Findings, declarations relative to school breakfast programs

18A:58-7.1 through -7.2 School lunch program

NJAC 2:36-1.1 et seq. Child Nutrition Programs

6A:16-5.1(b) School safety plans

6A:23-2.6 Supplies and equipment

6A:32-12.1 Reporting requirements

6A:32--14.1 Review of mandated programs and services

6A:30-1.1 et seq. Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts

Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010

Sec. 204 at the Federal Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-265)

42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq. Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act

42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq. Child Nutrition Act of 1966

7 C.F.R. Part 210 Medically authorized special needs diets

7 C.F.R. Part 210.10 Foods of minimum nutritional value

Manual for the Evaluation of Local School Districts

New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC)

Cross References

1200, 1220, 3000/3010, 3450, 3510, 3542, 3542.31, 3542.44, 4222, 5131, 9123,
9124