

CHILD NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM

The Texhoma Board of Education recognizes that childhood obesity has reached epidemic levels throughout the country. Overweight children are at a higher risk for developing severe long-term health problems, and overweight children are affected by discrimination, psychological stress, and low self-esteem. However, research indicates that obesity and subsequent diseases are largely preventable through diet and regular physical activity. Research also indicates that becoming physically active and maintaining a regular physical activity program significantly reduces the risk of some obesity and some cancers, diabetes, and other chronic diseases.

Children who eat well-balanced meals and are healthy are more likely to learn in the classroom. The board supports increased emphasis on nutrition as well as physical activity at all grade levels to enhance the well-being of our district's youth. Therefore, it is the policy of the board to:

1. Provide students access to nutritious food;
2. Provide opportunities for physical activity and developmentally appropriate exercise; and
3. Provide accurate information related to these topics.

It is the intent of the board of education that parents, students, child nutrition employees, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, and the general public participate in the development, implementation, and periodic review and updating of this policy. It is expected that the school district's Healthy and Fit Kids Advisory Committee will participate in the process and assist the referenced individuals in preparing written recommendations to the administration and the board to be adopted as a part of the school district's local school wellness policy. Specific information regarding these recommendations and the wellness policy are as follows:

WELLNESS POLICY

PURPOSE:

For the students to achieve to their highest potential at school and in the future, it is important to understand the relationship between nutrition, physical activity, and learning. Our goal is to establish healthy eating and physical activity habits that will benefit the student not only in the short-term but also the long-term. Schools have the responsibility to help educate the students in learning to make decisions that will lead to a healthy lifestyle. By working with the administrators, teachers, faculty, parents, and other community members, Texhoma Public School will establish well-planned and effectively implemented school nutrition and fitness programs.

GOAL:

All students in Texhoma Public School shall possess the knowledge and skills that will lead to making nutritious food choices and physical activity that will lead to a healthy lifestyle that will last a lifetime. The staff at Texhoma Public School is encouraged to model healthy eating habits and physical activity that will serve as a role model for students.

To meet this goal, Texhoma Public School adopts this school wellness policy with the following commitments to nutrition, nutrition education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that support the wellness of students and faculty.

CHILD NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM (Cont.)**NUTRITION GUIDELINES/STANDARDS****SCHOOL MEALS**

- Per USDA Regulations §210.10 and §220.8 school lunches and breakfasts will meet menu-planning system guidelines as required by the USDA
- Per USDA Regulation §210.10, school lunches will provide 1/3 of the recommended dietary allowances (RDA) for calories, protein, calcium, iron, vitamin A, and vitamin C as required by USDA.
- Per USDA Regulation §220.8, school breakfasts will provide 1/4 of the RDA for calories, protein, calcium, iron, vitamin A and vitamin C as required by USDA.
- Per USDA Regulations §210.10 and §220.8, the total calories from fat in school meals will be limited to 30 percent when averaged over one week
- Per USDA Regulations §210.10 and §220.8, the total calories from saturated fat in school meals will be less than 10 percent when averaged over one week.
- Per USDA Regulations §210.10 and §220.8, school meals will meet the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.
- Healthy food preparation techniques will be implemented. Food items will not be fried.

OTHER FOOD ITEMS SOLD ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

- Per USDA Regulation §210, Appendix B, foods of minimal nutritional value (FMNV) are prohibited from being sold or served during student meal services in the food service area where USDA reimbursable meals are served or eaten
- Per the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004, beverage contracts will not restrict the sale of fluid milk products at any time during the school day or at any place on the school premises.
- Per Oklahoma Senate Bill 265 (effective school year 2007-2008), students in elementary schools will not have access to FMNV except on special occasions.
- Per Oklahoma Senate Bill 265 (effective school year 2007-2008), diet soda, an FMNV, will be available for sale at the junior high only in vending areas outside of the cafeteria.
- Per Oklahoma Senate Bill 265 (effective school year 2007-2008), healthy food options will be provided at the high school and priced lower than FMNV in order to encourage students and staff to make healthier food choices.
- Per Oklahoma Senate Bill 265 (effective school year 2007-2008), students in junior high will not have access to FMNV except after school, at events that take place in the evening, or on special occasions.
- Fried food items will not be available for sale as a' la carte items.

CHILD NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM (Cont.)**NUTRITION EDUCATION**

- Per USDA Regulations §210.12 and §227, nutrition education is offered in the school cafeteria as well as the classroom.
- Per Oklahoma Senate Bill 1627, the Healthy and Fit School Advisory Committee at each school site will study and make recommendations regarding health education, nutrition, and health services.
- Students will receive consistent nutritional messages throughout the school, classroom, cafeteria, and school events.
- School staff will promote healthful eating and healthy lifestyles to students and parents.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

- Per Oklahoma Senate Bill 1627, the Healthy and Fit School Advisory Committee at each school site will study and make recommendations regarding physical education and physical activity.
- Per Oklahoma Senate Bill 312 (effective school year 2006-2007), students in Grades K through 5 will participate in 60 minutes of physical activity each week.
- Students will participate in an annual health-related fitness test (e.g., Fitness Gram, President's Challenge to Physical Fitness, etc.).
- All playgrounds will meet the recommended safety standards for design, installation, and maintenance.

SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES

- Per Oklahoma Senate Bill 1627, each school site will establish a Healthy and Fit School Advisory Committee that meets and makes recommendations to the school principal. The school principal shall give consideration to recommendations made by the Healthy and Fit School Advisory Committee.
- Per the school district's Child Nutrition Programs Agreement, school meals may not be used as a reward or punishment.
- Per USDA Regulations §210.12 and §227, students and parents will be involved in the NSLP. Parent and student involvement will include menu-planning suggestions, cafeteria enhancement, program promotion, and other related student-community support activities.
- Students will be provided with a clean, safe, enjoyable meal environment.
- Students will be involved in planning for a healthy school environment. Students will be asked for input and feedback through the use of student surveys, student committees, and school clubs.

CHILD NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM (Cont.)Curriculum

The Texhoma Board of Education recognizes that healthy eating patterns are essential for students to achieve their academic potential, full physical and mental growth, and lifelong health and well being. To help ensure students possess the knowledge and skills necessary to make nutritious food choices for a lifetime, the superintendent shall prepare and implement a comprehensive district nutrition program consistent with state and federal requirements for districts sponsoring the National School Lunch Program and/or the School Breakfast Program. To implement the program, the Superintendent shall adopt and implement a comprehensive curriculum on health, fitness, and nutrition that will provide opportunities for developmentally appropriate instruction for grades K-12. The input of staff, students, parents, and public health professionals in the development of the curriculum will be encouraged.

Nutrition, health, and fitness topics shall be integrated within the sequential comprehensive health education curriculum taught at every grade level, K-12, and coordinated with the district's nutrition and food services operation.

The district shall take a proactive effort to encourage students to make nutritious food choices. The superintendent shall ensure that:

1. A variety of healthy food choices are available whenever food is sold or served on district property or at district-sponsored events;
2. Schools shall regulate the sale or serving of foods or snacks high in fat, sodium, or added sugars; and
3. Nutritious meals served by the school nutrition and food services operation complies with state and federal law.

Child Nutrition Program

The Texhoma Public Schools will operate a school lunch program that will include lunch, and may include breakfast, through participation in the Child Nutrition Programs. The superintendent, in conjunction with the food service supervisor and with the approval of the board of education, will establish and post meal prices.

As required for participation in the Child Nutrition Programs, the board prescribes that:

School lunch is to be made available to all students.

Free and reduced price lunches are to be made available for students who meet the federal income guidelines.

In the operation of the Child Nutrition Programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age, or disability. Discrimination complaints under these programs should be filed with the State Department of Education Child Nutrition Programs, 2500 North Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599.

The district shall inform parents of the eligibility standards for free or reduced price meals. Reasonable efforts shall be made to protect the identity of students receiving such meals. A parent has the right to appeal to the superintendent any decision with respect to his/her application for free or reduced price food services.

CHILD NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAM (Cont.)

The district's child nutrition program shall reflect the board's commitment to providing adequate time for instruction to promote healthy eating through nutrition education, serving healthy and appealing foods at district schools, developing food-use guidelines for staff, and establishing liaisons with nutrition service providers, as appropriate. Nutrition education topics shall be integrated within the sequential, comprehensive health education program taught at every grade level, pre-kindergarten through grade 12, and coordinated with the district's nutrition and food services operation.

It is the intent of the board of education that district schools take a proactive effort to encourage students to make nutritious food choices. Meals served in school before the end of the last lunch period shall conform to the U. S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Food and beverages sold or served on district grounds or at district-sponsored events shall meet requirements for nutritional standards and/or other guidelines as may be recommended by the district and school health and nutrition committees. The superintendent shall ensure that nutritious foods are available as an affordable option whenever food is sold or served on district property or at district-sponsored events.

The superintendent is directed to prepare rules and regulations to implement and support this policy, including such provisions as may be necessary to address all food and beverages sold and/or served to students at school (i.e., competitive foods, snacks, and beverages sold from vending machines, school stores, and fund raising activities and refreshments that are made available at school parties, celebrations, and meetings), including provisions for staff development, family and community involvement, and program evaluation. The board of education designates the Superintendent as the school official who shall be responsible for oversight of this policy to ensure compliance for the school district.

The district is required to inform the public about the content of this policy and any updates to the policy on an annual basis. The district may do this electronically or through the media.

**REFERENCE: 70 O.S. §1-107
7 CFR, Parts 210 and 220
7 CFR, Part 245.5**

***THIS POLICY REQUIRED BY
PUBLIC LAW 108-265, SECTION 204
AND PUBLIC LAW 111-296.***