

Wellness Policy On Physical Activity and Nutrition

Providence Creek Academy Charter School is committed to providing a school environment that enhances learning and development of lifelong wellness practices. The School Wellness Policy is a collaborative effort of the Administrative Team, the School Health Committee, the Nutrition Manager, the Physical Education Instructors, the Health Instructors, parents, school staff, as well as students from Grades 5 & 6. Providence Creek Academy's Wellness Policy will be under the leadership and guidance by all of the above to ensure its implementation into our campus lifestyle. Kevin Curry, Dining Hall Manager is responsible for the Wellness Policy Compliance.

Policy Overview:

- Child nutrition programs comply with federal, state, and local requirements. Child nutrition programs are accessible to all children.
- Program development is underway to provide nutrition education that is age appropriate to the student body.
- Instructional physical activity is connected to students' lives outside of physical education.
- New policies are being developed to insure that all food and beverages available on campus align with Dietary Guidelines for Americans.
- All foods made available on campus adhere to food safety and security guidelines.
- The school environment is amicable for students in reference to eating environments and ample time is allotted for physical activities.

Nutrition Education

- Nutrition Education will be integrated across the curriculum.
- The staff responsible for nutrition education will be adequately prepared and participate regularly in professional development activities to effectively deliver an accurate nutrition education program. (1)
- The school cafeteria provides opportunities to apply critical thinking skills to real life choices in regard to food selection.
- Nutrition education will involve sharing information with families to increase the awareness for the need of proper nutrition. (6)
- Students will be encouraged to start each day with a healthy breakfast.
- To increase metabolism recess will schedule to take place before lunch whenever possible.
- Hang MyPlate graphics in and around the Dining Hall.
- Request healthy advertising from vendors to display on campus.
- Implement a Service Learning trip to a greenhouse and/or farm to learn where healthy and nutritious foods originate (Fifer Farms, Willey Farms, Filasky Farms).

- Maintain a healthy lifestyle bulletin board and/or newsletter for students/families in the nurse's office.

Physical Activity

- Throughout the school Physical Activity will be emphasized across the curriculum.
- Physical education courses will be the environment where students learn, practice and are assessed on developmentally appropriate motor skills, social skills and knowledge. (1)
- Policies ensure that state- certified physical education instructors teach all physical education classes. (1)
- Policies ensure that state physical education classes have a student teacher ratio similar to other classes. (1)
- Time allotted for physical activity will be achieved through physical education, recess period, extra curricular activities and classroom integration. (2)
- Provide a daily recess to all students, not using it as a reward or punishment.
- Food intake will be taken into consideration when addressing physical activity.

SNA Local Wellness Policy Guidelines

- Physical education includes the instruction of individual activities as well competitive and non-competitive team sports to encourage life long physical activities. (8)
- Equipment is available for all students to participate in physical education. Physical activity facilities on school grounds will be safe.
- Information will be provided to families to encourage physical activity in their student's lives.
- The school will provide physical and social environment that encourages safe and enjoyable activity for all students including those who are not athletically gifted. (1)
- Community access is given to the facilities and the land. (8)
- Implement programs that support physical activities, such as walking, LEAP programs, and American Heart Association sponsored activities. (1)

Nutrition Guidelines for All Foods Available to Students During the School Day

- Food providers will take every measure to ensure that student access to food and beverages meet federal, state, and local laws and guidelines. Food providers will offer a variety of age appropriate healthy food and beverage selections for all students.

- Nutrition information for products offered as snacks, a la carte, vending and school stores will be readily available near the point of purchase.
- Families, teachers, students, and school officials will participate in choosing food selections offered to students.
- Classroom snacks will feature healthy choices. (5)
- Encourage alternatives to cupcakes for birthday/classroom celebrations; have lunch in the classroom with movie/play games/movement videos (Go Noodle).
- Smart Snacks Standards for beverages, foods and snacks are the only approved product that may be sold at Providence Creek Academy Charter School for all students.

Eating Environment

- Students will be allotted an adequate amount of time for consuming meals. At least 10 minutes will be given for breakfast consumption and 20 minutes for lunch consumption. (3)
- Lunch periods are scheduled as close to the middle of the day as possible. Whenever possible, students will be given recess before lunch periods. (7)
- Cafeterias include enough serving space so that students do not have to spend too much time waiting in line.
- Dining areas are attractive and have enough space for seating all students. (8)
- Drinking water is available to all students throughout the day and during meals.
- Using food as a punishment or reward for good behavior is not encouraged unless stated in the student's Individualized Education Plan. (IEP)

Child Nutrition Operations

- The child nutrition program will ensure that all students have affordable access to the varied and nutritious foods they need to stay healthy and learn well. (1)
- The school will strive to increase participation in the available federal Child Nutrition programs (e.g. school lunch, school breakfast, after school snack and summer foodservice programs).
- We will employ a food service director, who is properly qualified, certified and/or credentialed according to current professional standards, to administer the school food service program and satisfy reporting requirements. (1)
- All food service personal will have adequate pre-service training in food service operations. (1)
- Students are encouraged to start each day with a healthy breakfast.
- Maintain the Backpack Program.

Food Safety/Food Security

- All foods made available on Campus will comply with the state and local food safety and sanitation regulations, Hazard Analysis and Critical Points (HACCP) plans and guidelines will be implemented to prevent food illness in schools.
- For the safety and security of the food and facility, access to the food service operations will be limited to Child Nutrition staff and authorized personnel. For further guidance see the US Department of Agriculture food security guidelines.
- In the Dining Hall to prevent food borne illness and possible allergic reactions outside food CAN NOT be brought in for a group or class. Outside food may be brought in but only for one's child or children.

Goals

- Recess will not be used as a reward/punishment for any student by the end of the 2018 school year.
- Rewards will not be given within the classroom in the form of sweets for behavior or celebrations but implement physical activity in the form of extra recess and/or movement video (Go Noodle).
- Inform the families of our students of the changes made to our Wellness Policy via Facebook post from the Nurse's Page and/or newsletter by the end of the first trimester for the 2018 school year. We will also allow suggestions from families to add to our policy.
- Our policy will be reviewed every three year. Next due 2020.
- Implement a 10 Minute physical activity break for every 90 minute Block.
- Implement healthy lifestyle initiatives such as "Fuel Up to Play 60" to encourage physical activity and healthy eating habits.
- Implement Physical Education classes into each student's schedule for the entire school year, not one trimester.

References

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