
RAINIER SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD POLICY

CODE: EFA-AR

ADOPTED: August 17, 2015

REVIEWED:

Local Wellness Program

The health of our students is essential to their academic success. When faced with conflicting priorities or issues of implementation, this policy will be interpreted in a way that favors student health. The district's comprehensive age-appropriate nutrition program will be implemented in district schools in accordance with the following requirements:

Definitions

1. "Accompaniment foods" means food items served along with another food to enhance palitablity such as butter, jelly, cream cheese, salad dressing, croutons and condiments.
2. "Combination foods" means products that contain two or more components representing two or more of the recommended food groups: fruit; vegetable; dairy; protein; or grains.
3. "Competitive foods" means any food or drink sold in competition with the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and/or School Breakfast Program (SBP) during the school day. Competitive foods shall meet Federal and State nutrition and portion size guidelines.
4. "Dietary Guidelines for Americans" means the current set of recommendations of the federal government that are designed to help people choose diets that will meet nutrient requirements, promote health, support active lives and reduce chronic disease risks.
5. "Entree item" means an item that is either:
 - a. A combination food of meat or meat alternate and whole grain rich food; or
 - b. A combination food of vegetable or fruit and meat or meat alternate; or

- c. A meat or meat alternate alone with the exception of yogurt, low-fat or reduced fat cheese, nuts, seeds and nut or seed butters and meat snacks (such as dried beef jerky); or
 - d. Grains only when served in the SBP.
6. "Food service area" means any area on school premises where NSLP or SBP meals are both served and eaten, as well as any areas in which NSLP or SBP meals are either served or eaten.
7. "Meal period" means the period(s) during which breakfast or lunch meals are served and eaten, and as identified on the school schedule.
8. "Nutrition education" means a planned sequential instructional program that provides knowledge and teaches skills to help students adopt and maintain lifelong healthy eating habits.
9. "Oregon Smart Snacks"¹ means the minimum nutrition standards for competitive foods and beverages.
- a. Food items, including accompaniment foods, must:
 - i. Be a grain product that contains 50 percent or more whole grains by weight or have as the first ingredient a whole grain (e.g., flour, flake or meal); or
 - ii. Have as the first ingredient, one of the non-grain major food groups: fruits; vegetables; dairy or protein foods (e.g., meat, beans, poultry, seafood, eggs, nuts, seeds); or
 - iii. Be a combination food that contains one-quarter cup of fruit and/or vegetable; or
 - iv. Have one of the food items above as a second ingredient if water is the first ingredient; or
 - v. Contain 10 percent of the Daily Value of a nutrient of public health concern based on the most recent *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* (e.g., calcium, potassium, vitamin D or dietary fiber)²; and
 - vi. Meet all the competitive food nutrient standards:

(1) Calories:

(a) Snacks contain no more than:

¹Oregon Department of Education, www.ode.state.or.us

²Effective for the period through June 30, 2016. Effective July 1, 2016, this criterion is obsolete and may not be used to qualify as a competitive food.

- (i) 150 calories as packaged or served for elementary level;
 - (ii) 180 calories as packaged or served for middle school level;
 - (iii) 200 calories as packaged or served for high school level.
 - (b) Entrees contain no more than 350 calories as packaged or served.
- (2) Total fat: contains 35 percent or less of total calories from fat per item as packaged or served.
- (a) Exemptions to the total fat standard are granted for reduced fat cheese and part-skim mozzarella cheese, nuts, seeds, nut or seed butters, products consisting of only dried fruit with nuts and/or seeds with no added nutritive sweeteners or fat and seafood with no added fat.
- (3) Saturated fat: contains no more than 10 percent of total calories from saturated fat per item as packaged or served.
- (a) Exemptions to the saturated fat standard are granted for reduced fat cheese and part-skim mozzarella cheese, nuts and products consisting of only dried fruit with nuts and/or seeds with no added nutritive sweeteners or fat.
- (4) Transfat: contains 0 grams of trans fat per item as packaged or served.
- (5) Sugar must be no more than 35 percent by weight.
- (a) Exempt from the sugar standard are:
 - (i) Dried whole fruits or vegetables;
 - (ii) Dried whole fruit or vegetable pieces;
 - (iii) Dehydrated fruits or vegetables with no added nutritive sweeteners; and
 - (iv) Dried fruits with nutritive sweeteners that are required for processing and/or palatability purposes (i.e., cranberries, blueberries, tart cherries).

- (6) Sodium:
 - (a) Snacks contain no more than 230 mg sodium³ per item as packaged or served.
 - (b) Entrees contain no more than 480 mg sodium per item as packaged or served.
- (7) Caffeine free, except for naturally occurring trace amounts, for elementary and middle school level.
- (8) Exempt from all nutrients standards on any day are:
 - (a) Fresh, canned and frozen fruits or vegetables with no added ingredients except water.
 - (b) Fruit packed in 100 percent juice, extra light or light syrup.
 - (c) Canned vegetables that contain a small amount of sugar for processing purposes.
- (9) Entrees in same or smaller portion served on the day or the day following in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs:
 - (a) Are exempt from the nutrient standards for:
 - (i) Saturated fat;
 - (ii) Transfat;
 - (iii) Sodium; and
 - (iv) Sugar.
 - (b) Must contain:
 - (i) Calories not to exceed 450 per item as packaged or served; and
 - (ii) Total fat not to exceed 36 percent of total calories or 4 grams per 100 calories per item as packaged or served.

b. Beverages must be:

i. For elementary level students:

³On July 1, 2016, the sodium standard will reduce to 200 mg per item as packaged or served.

- (1) Plain water, carbonated or uncarbonated, with portion size unlimited;
- (2) Lowfat milk (unflavored), with portion size not to exceed 8 ounces and 150 calories;
- (3) Nonfat milk (including flavored), with portion size not to exceed 8 ounces and 150 calories;
- (4) Nutritionally equivalent milk alternatives, portion size not to exceed 8 ounces and 150 calories;
- (5) Full strength fruit or vegetable juices, portion size not to exceed 8 ounces and 120 calories;
- (6) Caffeine free, except for naturally occurring trace amounts.

ii. For middle school level students:

- (1) Plain water, carbonated or uncarbonated, with portion size unlimited;
- (2) Lowfat milk (unflavored), portion size not to exceed 10 ounces and 190 calories;
- (3) Nonfat milk (including flavored), portion size not to exceed 10 ounces and 190 calories;
- (4) Nutritionally equivalent milk alternatives, portion size not to exceed 10 ounces and 190 calories;
- (5) Full strength fruit or vegetable juices, portion size not to exceed 10 ounces and 150 calories;
- (6) Caffeine free, except for naturally occurring trace amounts.

iii. For high school level students:

- (1) Plain water, carbonated or uncarbonated, with portion size unlimited;
- (2) Lowfat milk (unflavored), portion size not to exceed 12 ounces and 225 calories;
- (3) Nonfat milk (including flavored), portion size not to exceed 12 ounces and 225 calories;
- (4) Nutritionally equivalent milk alternatives, portion size not to exceed 12 ounces and 225 calories;
- (5) Full strength fruit or vegetable juices, portion size not to exceed 12 ounces and 180 calories;
- (6) Low or no calorie beverage is less than 5 calories per 8 ounce serving or less than or equal to 10 calories per 20 fluid ounces, portion size not to exceed 20 ounce serving;
- (7) Other beverages are not to exceed 40 calories per 8 fluid ounces (or 60 calories per 12 fluid ounces) with portion size not to exceed 12 ounces.

- c. Use the nutrient standard for the lowest grade group when mixed grades have open access to competitive foods.
- 10. "School day" means a student education day beginning at midnight and ending at the conclusion of afternoon student activities, such as athletic, music or drama practices, clubs, academic support and enrichment activities.
- 11. "Snack" means a food that is generally regarded as supplementing a meal and includes, but is not limited to, chips, crackers, onion rings, nachos, french fries, doughnuts, cookies, pastries, cinnamon rolls and candy.

Nutrition Promotion and Nutrition Education

Nutrition promotion and nutrition education shall focus on students' eating behaviors, be based on theories and methods proven effective by research and be consistent with state and local district health education standards. Nutrition education at all levels of the district's curriculum shall include, but not be limited to, the following essential components designed to help students learn:

- 1. Age-appropriate nutritional knowledge, including the benefits of healthy eating, essential nutrients, nutritional deficiencies, principles of healthy weight management, the use and misuse of dietary supplements, safe food preparation, handling and storage and cultural diversity related to food and eating;
- 2. Age-appropriate nutrition-related skills, including, but not limited to, planning a healthy meal, understanding and using food labels and critically evaluating nutrition information, misinformation and commercial food advertising; and
- 3. How to assess one's personal eating habits, set goals for improvement and achieve those goals.

In order to reinforce and support district nutrition education efforts, the principal is responsible for ensuring:

- 4. Nutrition instruction is closely coordinated with the school's nutrition and food services operation and other components of the school health program to reinforce messages on healthy eating and includes social learning techniques. To maximize classroom time, nutrition concepts shall be integrated into the instruction of other subject areas where possible;

5. Links with nutrition service providers (e.g., qualified public health and nutrition professionals) are established to: provide screening, referral and counseling for nutritional problems; inform families about supplemental nutritional services available in the community (e.g., SNAP, local food pantries, summer food services program, child and adult care food program), and implement nutrition education and promotion activities for school staff, Board members and parents;
6. In keeping with the district's nutrition program goals, all classroom reward or incentive programs involving food items are reviewed for approval to ensure that the foods served meet the requirements of the district's nutrition policy and regulation (i.e., all foods served fit in a healthy diet as recommended in the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*, and contribute to the development of lifelong healthy eating habits for the district's students);
7. Child Nutrition Staff support nutrition education by marketing healthy meals and providing nutrition information to students and families.
8. Positive nutrition promotion will occur throughout the district to encourage healthy eating patterns and increased physical activity by all students. Promotion can be done throughout the cafeteria, hallways, and classrooms.

Physical Education/Activity

In order to insure students are afforded the opportunity to engage in physical activity in the school setting, the following guidelines apply:

1. Physical activity will be integrated across curricula and throughout the school day. Movement will be made a part of science, math, social studies and language arts;
2. Physical education will be a course of study that focuses on students' development of motor skills, movement forms and health related fitness;
3. Physical education courses will be the environment where students learn, practice and are assessed on developmentally appropriate motor skills, social skills and knowledge;
4. All physical education classes will be taught by highly qualified physical education instructors;
5. A daily recess period will be provided which will not be used as a punishment or a reward; and

6. Physical education instruction shall be a sequential, developmentally appropriate curriculum that is designed, implemented and evaluated to help students develop the knowledge, motor skills, self management skills, attitudes and confidence needed to adopt and maintain physical activity throughout their lives.

Nutrition Guidelines and Food Services Operation

Decisions regarding the sale of foods in addition to the National School breakfast and Lunch Program meals will be based on nutrition goals, not solely revenue. It is the intent of the board that district schools take a proactive effort to encourage students to make nutritious food choices.

In order to support the school's nutrition and food services operation as an essential partner in the educational mission of the district and its role in the district's comprehensive nutrition program, the principal is responsible for ensuring:

1. The school encourages all students to participate in the school's NSLP and SBP meal opportunities;
2. The district's nutrition services operation will provide nutrient-dense, tasty food including a variety of fruits and vegetables.
3. The district will look for opportunities to integrate local foods into the meals served to students by the district, based on availability, acceptability, and price, using food grown in the district's school garden whenever possible.
4. The school notifies families of need-based programs for free or reduced-price meals and encourages eligible families to apply;
5. The school's NSLP and SBP maintains the confidentiality of students and families applying for or receiving free or reduced-priced meals in accordance with the National School Lunch Act;
6. The school's NSLP and SBP operates to meet dietary specifications in accordance with the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 and applicable state laws and regulations;
7. The school sells or serves varied and nutritious food choices consistent with the applicable federal government *Dietary Guidelines for Americans*. Schools contracting out the food service part of their NSLP and SBP shall form a nutrition advisory committee comprised of teachers, students and parents to assist in

menu planning. A nutrition committee comprised of students, family members and school personnel will be encouraged to provide input in menu planning for districts operating their own food service component of the NSLP and SBP (i.e., food services purchasing, menu planning, food production and meal service). Cultural norms and preferences will be considered;

8. Food prices set by the district are communicated to students and parents. District pricing strategies will encourage students to purchase full meals and nutritious items;

9. Procedures are in place for providing to families, on request, information about the ingredients and nutritional value of the foods served;

10. Modified meals are prepared for students with special food needs:

a. The district will provide substitute foods to students with disabilities upon written parental permission and a medical statement by a physician that identifies the student's disability, states why the disability restricts the student's diet, identifies the major life activity affected by the disability, and states the food or foods to be omitted and the food or choice of foods that must be substituted;

b. Such food substitutions will be made for students without disabilities on a case-by-case basis when the parent submits a signed request that includes a medical statement signed by a physician, physician assistant, registered dietitian or nurse practitioner. The medical statement must state the medical condition or special dietary need that restricts the student's diet and provide a list of food(s) that may be substituted in place of the lunch or breakfast menu being served.

11. Food service equipment and facilities meet applicable local and state standards concerning health, safe food preparation, handling and storage, drinking water, sanitation and workplace safety;

12. Students are provided adequate time and space to eat meals in a pleasant and safe environment. The school will consider strategies, such as recess before lunch, to help contribute to healthy eating. School dining areas will be reviewed to ensure:

a. Tables and chairs are of the appropriate size for students;

b. Seating is not overcrowded;

c. Students have a relaxed environment;

d. Noise is not allowed to become excessive;

e. Rules for safe behavior are consistently enforced;

f. Tables and floors are cleaned between meal periods;

g. The physical structure of the eating area is in good repair;

h. Appropriate supervision is provided.

13. The guidelines for reimbursable school meals shall not be less restrictive than regulations and guidance issued by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of section 10 of the Child Nutrition Act (42 U.S.C. 1779) and sections 9(f)(1) and 17(a) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(f)(1), 1766(a)), as those regulations and guidance apply to schools.

School Employee Wellness⁴

The district's school employee wellness program may shall include the following:

1. Health education and health promoting activities that focus on skill development and lifestyle behavior that change along with awareness building, information dissemination, access to facilities, and preferably are tailored to employee's needs and interests;
2. Safe, supportive social and physical environments including organizational expectations about healthy behavior and implementation of policy that promote health and safety and reduce the risk of disease;
3. Linkage to related programs such as employee assistance programs, emergency care and programs that help employees balance work life and family life;
4. Education and resources to help employees make decisions about health care;
5. Nutrition and fitness educational opportunities that may include, but are not limited to, the distribution of educational and informational materials, and the arrangement of presentations and workshops that focus on healthy lifestyles, health assessments, fitness activities and other appropriate nutrition and physical activity related topics.

The district encourages participation from all employees, employees are not limited to instructional staff (i.e., teachers and instructional assistants) but include administrators and all support staff. The following groups are seen as essential for establishing, implementing and sustaining an effective school employee wellness program: school personnel who implement existing wellness programs in the district, i.e., school employee wellness committee and they may be the district personnel who implement health programs for students such as,

⁴[This language is optional and not required by state or federal law.]

but not limited to, school health coordinator, school nurses, psychologist, health and physical educators, nutrition professionals, counselors and other school staff. These groups may include decision makers who have the authority to approve policy and provide administrative support essential for a school wellness program such as, but not limited to, board members, superintendents, human resource administrators, fiscal services administrators and building principals.

Other School-Based Activities

The district will provide the following activities and encourage the following practices which promote local wellness:

1. The district will strive to provide access to School-Based Health Clinics for all students, as fiscally possible.
2. The district will promote health and wellness through collaboration with physical education teachers, nutrition services staff, teachers, students and the community through district wide events, school and community gardens, and other support projects.

Competitive Food Sales

In keeping with federal regulations, the district controls the sale of all competitive foods.

Accordingly, the district will select food items that meet the Oregon Smart Snacks nutrition standards. The sale of foods and beverages in competition with the district's NSLP and SBP meals shall be permitted when all income from the food sales accrues to the benefit of the district's nutrition and food services operation or a school or student organization as approved by the Board.

The district will ensure that nutritious foods are available at an affordable option whenever food is sold or served on district property or at district-sponsored events; that schools limit the sale or serving of foods or snacks high in fat, sodium or added sugars; and competition with nutritious meals served by the school nutrition and food services operation is minimized.

Other Foods Offered or Sold

Foods and beverages sold or offered in classrooms or school-sponsored activities during the school day shall follow the Oregon Smart Snacks standards unless otherwise exempt by state law.

Food and beverage items sold after the school day as part of an approved school fund-raising event are not required to meet minimum state requirements.

A guideline will be developed for "Healthy Snacks" and "Healthy Parties" and provided to parents and teachers with a list of examples of healthy, affordable food choices for snacks and parties.

Fundraising/School Stores

The district encourages fundraising activities that promote physical activity and provide healthy food and beverage options. Food sold at school as a fundraiser during the school day will meet the Healthy Snacks, Healthy Party guidelines, and Federal and State regulations.

Distribution of Competitive Foods

1. Celebrations

Nutritious foods are encouraged when used as part of a social or cultural event in the schools. During the school day, schools should limit the use of food at celebrations that are not related to the curriculum. Parents and staff are encouraged to provide party foods that are consistent with the Healthy Parties guidelines and to serve such items after the lunch hour whenever possible.

2. Use of foods as Incentive or Reward

The use of any candy as a reward for academic performance or good behavior is strongly discouraged. Other food as an incentive, or reward, or as part of the curriculum for students should be used judiciously, taking into consideration the nutritional value of the food being served and the frequency of use.

After-school Events Sponsored by District

Food offerings at concession stands operated on school campuses (such as, but not limited to, athletic events and concessions, after school programs, performances and school dances) shall include healthy options such as water, milk, 100 percent juice and nutritious foods as delineated by the Healthy Snacks guidelines.

Staff Development

Ongoing pre-service and professional development training opportunities for staff will be encouraged. Staff responsible for nutrition education will be encouraged to participate in professional development activities to effectively deliver the

nutrition education program as planned. Nutrition and food services personnel receive opportunities to participate in professional development activities that address strategies for promoting healthy eating behavior, food safety, maintaining safe, orderly and pleasant eating environments and other topics directly relevant to the employee's job duties. The principal is responsible to ensure such training is made available including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Personnel management;
2. Financial management and record keeping;
3. Cost- and labor-efficient food purchasing and preparation;
4. Sanitation and safe food handling, preparation and storage;
5. Planning menus for students with special needs and students of diverse cultural backgrounds;
6. Customer service and student and family involvement;
7. Marketing healthy meals;
8. Principles of nutrition education, including selected curriculum content and innovative nutrition teaching strategies; and
9. Assessment by staff of their own eating practices and increased awareness of behavioral messages staff provide as role models.

Family and Community Involvement

In order to promote family and community involvement in supporting and reinforcing nutrition education in the schools, the principal is responsible for ensuring:

10. Nutrition education materials and cafeteria menus are sent home with students;
11. Parents are encouraged to send healthy snacks/meals to school;
12. Parents and other family members are invited to periodically eat with their student in the cafeteria;
13. Families are invited to attend exhibitions of student nutrition projects or health fairs;

14. Nutrition education workshops and screening services are offered;
15. Nutrition education homework that students can do with their families is assigned (e.g., reading and interpreting food labels, reading nutrition-related newsletters, preparing healthy recipes, etc.);
16. School staff are encouraged to cooperate with other agencies and community groups to provide opportunities for student volunteer or paid work related to nutrition, as appropriate;
17. School staff encourages and provides support for parental involvement in their children's physical education;

Program Evaluation

In order to evaluate the effectiveness of the local wellness program in promoting healthy eating, increased physical activity among students and to implement program changes as necessary to increase its effectiveness, the superintendent or designee is responsible for ensuring:

18. Board policy and this administrative regulation are implemented as written;
19. All building, grade-level nutrition education curricula and materials are assessed for accuracy, completeness, balance and consistency with state and local district educational goals and standards;
20. Nutrition education is provided throughout the student's school years as part of the district's age-appropriate, comprehensive nutrition program;
21. Teachers deliver nutrition education through age-appropriate, culturally relevant, participatory activities that include social learning strategies and activities;
22. Teachers and school nutrition and food services personnel have undertaken joint project planning and action;
23. Teachers have received curriculum-specific training;
24. Teachers provide physical activity instruction and programs that meet the needs and interests of all students;
25. Families and community organizations are involved, to the extent practicable, in nutrition education; and

26. One or more persons within the district or at each school, as appropriate, will be charged with the operational responsibility of ensuring that the policy and administrative regulations are followed and will develop an evaluation plan to be used to assess the district's level of compliance with state and federal requirements.