

# Taylor Community School Corporation Wellness Policy

The Board of School Trustees of Taylor Community School Corporation supports the health and well-being of the school corporation's students by promoting nutrition and physical activity at all grade levels.

In accordance with federal law, it is the policy of the Board to provide students access to healthy foods and beverages; provide opportunities for developmentally appropriate physical activity; and require that all meals served by the school corporation meet and exceed the federal nutritional guidelines issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. A Coordinated School Health Advisory Council will be formed and maintained to oversee these activities.

The school Wellness Policy will be made available to students and families on the school website at [www.taylor.k12.in.us](http://www.taylor.k12.in.us).

## Coordinated School Health Advisory Council

The board will engage parents/guardians, food service professionals, teachers for physical education, school health professionals, school board members, school administrators and other interested community members in developing, implementing, monitoring and reviewing corporation-wide nutrition and physical activity policies.

- A. In accordance with state and federal law, the school corporation will form and maintain a corporation level Coordinated School Health Advisory Council that includes the following:

Food Service Director- Paula Bolin  
School Nurse – Nikki Hammond  
Elementary Principal – Jake Leicht  
Elementary Assistant Principal – Brandon Gleason  
Physical Education Teacher – Kirk Wiley  
Teachers – Denise Leicht and Rosie Goudy  
Teacher/PTO – Jenny Drang  
MTSS Coach – Kelly Hillman  
Parent – Cindy Jeanicke and Sarah Debard

- B. The Advisory Council shall meet at least annually to review nutrition and physical activity policies and to develop an action plan for the coming year. The Council shall meet as needed during the school year to discuss implementation activities and address barriers and challenges.
- C. The Advisory Council shall report annually to the Superintendent and the School Board on the implementation of the wellness policy and include any recommended changes or revisions.
- D. The School Board shall adopt or revise nutrition and physical activity policies based on recommendations made by the Advisory Council.

## **1. Nutrition Education and Nutrition Promotion**

Nutrition topics shall be integrated within the comprehensive health education curriculum and taught at every grade level (K-12) according to standards of the Indiana Department of Education. Schools will link nutrition education activities with existing coordinated school health programs or other comparable comprehensive school health promotion frameworks.

## **2. Standards for USDA Child Nutrition Programs and School Meals**

The board will provide and promote the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs to ensure that all students have access to healthy foods to support healthier choices and promote optimal learning.

## **3. Nutrition Standards for Competitive and Other Foods and Beverages**

- A. The Board will provide and allow foods and beverages that support proper nutrition, promote healthy choices, and comply with federal nutrition standards in vending machines, school stores and concession stand. This also includes food and beverages made available in schools during the school day for such events as school fund raisers and food and beverages brought into the schools by students or other person such events as birthdays and classroom celebrations.

Fundraisers selling food items that do not meet the federal nutrition standards are limited to two such fund raisers per school building per year.

- B. The Board will allow marketing in school buildings and on school grounds during the school day for only those food and beverages provided by the school that meet the federal nutrition standards. Marketing that promotes student health will be permitted in school buildings and on school grounds.

## **4. Physical Education**

The Board supports the health and well-being of students by promoting physical activity through physical education, recess and other physical breaks; such as before and after school activities. Additionally, the Board supports physical activity among elementary students by providing them with at least 20 minutes of the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity per day.

## **5. Other Activities that Promote Student Wellness**

The Board supports the health and well-being of our students and staff by creating and promoting policy and environmental supports to provide physical activity and healthy eating opportunities.



## 6. Evaluation

Through implementation and enforcement of this policy, the corporation will create an environment that supports opportunities for physical activity and healthy eating behaviors. To ensure continuing progress, the corporation will evaluate implementation efforts and their impact on students and staff at least every three years.

The board designates the Superintendent to ensure compliance with this policy and its administrative regulations. The Superintendent is responsible for retaining all documentation of compliance with this policy and its regulations, including but not limited to each school's three-year assessment and evaluation report and this wellness policy and plan.

### Administrative Regulations:

#### 1. Nutrition Education

1. Health education will be provided as part of a comprehensive health education program and taught by a licensed health education instructor.
2. The school corporation will provide nutrition education training opportunities to teachers and staff for all grade levels.
3. The school corporation will help students to identify the relationship between food choices and living a healthy lifestyle both in school and out.
4. The school corporation will help students to identify and select healthy food choices both in school and out.

#### 2. Nutrition Promotion

1. Nutrition promotion will include lessons that cover topics such as how to read and use food labels, choosing healthy options and portion control.
2. School staff will collaborate with community groups and organizations to provide opportunities for student projects related to nutrition (e.g., Food Pantry, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Intramural Sports).
3. Nutrition promotion resources will be provided to parents/guardians through handouts, website links, school newsletters, presentations and any other appropriate means available to reach parents/guardians.
4. Nutrition educators will partner with school staff of the school food service program to use the cafeteria as a learning lab. Healthy items; such as salads and fruits, will be displayed prominently in the cafeterias to make healthier choices more appealing.
5. Foods of minimal nutritional value, including brands and illustrations, shall not be advertised or marketed in educational materials.

#### 3. Standards for USDA Child Nutrition Programs and School Meals

1. School Meal Content

1. Meals served through the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs will:
  - Be appealing and appetizing to children;
  - Meet, at a minimum, the nutrition requirements established by the USDA for federally funded programs;
  - Contain 0 percent trans-fat;
  - Offer a variety of fruits and vegetables;
  - 80 percent of the grains offered will be whole grain-rich.
2. All cooked foods will be baked or steamed. Proper procurement procedures and preparation methods will be used to decrease excess fat, calorie and sodium levels in food.
3. Schools are encouraged to purchase or obtain fresh fruits and vegetables from local farmers when practical.
4. Students will have the opportunity to provide input on local, cultural and ethnic favorites.
5. The food service department shall have Tasting Tuesday monthly to provide periodic food promotions that will allow for taste testing of new healthier foods being introduced on the menu.
6. Special dietary needs of students will be considered when planning meals.
7. The food service department will share and publicize information about the nutritional content of meals with students and parents/guardians upon request.

## 2. School Meal Participation

1. To the extent possible, schools will provide the USDA School Breakfast Program to all students.
2. To the extent possible, schools will utilize methods to serve school breakfast that encourage participation, including serving breakfast in the classroom and serving grab-and-go breakfasts.
3. Schools will inform families of the availability and location of the Summer Food Service Program meals, in accordance with the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.

## 3. Mealtimes and Scheduling

1. Adequate time will be provided to students to eat lunch (at least 20 minutes after being served) and breakfast (at least 10 minutes after being served).
2. The elementary school will have a scheduled recess after lunch.
3. School meals will be served in a clean and pleasant setting.

4. Students will have convenient access to hand washing stations.
5. Potable (drinking) water must be readily available at all mealtimes.
6. Appropriate supervision will be provided in the cafeteria and rules for safe behavior shall be consistently enforced.

#### 4. Professional Development

1. Professional development and training will be provided at least annually to food service managers and staff on proper food handling techniques and healthy cooking practices.

#### 4. Nutrition Standards for Competitive and Other Food and Beverages

1. Nutrition Standards for all vending machines will conform to the provisions in the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010.
  1. 8-12 a' la carte, vending machines and other foods outside of school meals shall be limited to:
    - Only those items that have been approved through the Smart Snack calculator.

#### 2. Availability

1. Any vending machines at the elementary school that dispenses food or beverage items may not be accessible to students.
2. Vending machine in the middle and high school will contain items that meet the approved nutritional standards.
3. Vending machines for school staff will not be accessible to students.
4. Students and staff will have free, potable (drinking) water for consumption available in the water fountains throughout the school buildings.



### 3. Concession Stands

1. The concession stand at school sponsored events will offer some healthy choices as according to the approved nutrition standards.

### 4. Classroom Celebrations

1. Classroom celebrations will try to focus on activities (e.g., giving free time, extra recess, music and reading time) rather than food.
2. Classroom celebrations that include food such as holiday parties or school wide celebrations will be limited to one per month.
  - K-5 classroom celebration including food will be encouraged to make healthier choices.
  - K-5 birthday celebrations including food will bring treats that are prepackaged and encouraged to be healthier choices.
  - 6-12 classroom celebrations including food will be curriculum driven and encourage healthier choices.
3. Schools shall inform parents/guardians of the classroom celebration guidelines.

### 5. Food as a Reward or Punishment

1. Teachers and staff are highly discouraged to use food as rewards. For example, the use of sugar sweetened beverages and candy as a classroom reward at any school is not appropriate.
2. School staff will not withhold food or drink at mealtimes as punishment.

### 6. Fundraisers

1. Fund raising activities will support healthy eating and wellness. Schools will be encouraged to promote the sale of non-food items for school sponsored fundraising. For a food and beverage item to be sold as a fundraiser, it must meet the approved nutrition standards. Fund raisers subject to this rule are those sold for immediate consumption on school grounds. The school day is defined as from midnight the night before to 30 minutes after the end of the school day.

7. Non-sold food and beverages:

1. Non-sold food and beverages will be encouraged to be healthier choices that align with Smart Snack Standards. (ex. Baked chip, whole grain cookies and granola bars)

8. Marketing

1. Signage or similar media on school campus during the school day may only advertise food and/or beverages provided and sold by the school that meet the competitive foods standards for foods sold in schools (i.e. Smart Snacks)
2. Schools will post signage in the cafeteria, hallways and weight room promoting proper nutrition and the benefit of a healthy life style.

**5. Physical Activity and Physical Education**

1. Physical Education K-12

1. All students in grades K-12 will be offered physical education in order to meet the Physical Education Standards. Also, high schools will encourage students to take more than the courses of physical education required for all Indiana diplomas.
2. Students may opt to substitute an approved extra-curricular sport for their alternate physical education credit.
3. Physical education classes will have the same student/teacher ratio used in other classes. In Indiana, the ratio for a single school shall not exceed an average of 30 to 1.
4. The physical education program shall be provided adequate space and equipment to ensure quality physical education classes for students.

2. Daily Recess and Physical Activity Breaks

1. Taylor Elementary School shall provide daily physical activity in accordance with Indiana Code 20-30-5-7-5.

2. All elementary school students will have at least 1 period of active recess per day that is at least 20 minutes in length as recommended by the National Association for Sport and Physical Education (NASPE). This recess period will be outdoors when possible. If outdoor recess is not possible due to inclement weather, teachers will provide an indoor activity in the classroom.
3. All teachers will be encouraged to use Brain Breaks during classroom time as much as possible.
4. Schools should discourage extended periods of inactivity (2 or more hours). During events such as mandatory school-wide testing, teachers will give students periodic breaks for moderate physical activity.

### 3. Physical Activity Opportunities Before and After School

1. Schools will offer intramurals, clubs, interscholastic sports and voluntary activities to increase opportunities for physical activity before and /or after school, considering student interest and supervisor availability.
2. After-school enrichment providers will include physical activity in their programs, to the extent, space and equipment allow.

### 4. Physical Activity and Remedial Activities/Punishment

1. School staff will be discouraged from removing students from physical education to receive instruction in other content areas.
2. School staff will not use physical activity (e.g., running laps, pushups).
3. Discipline procedures can be implemented for refusal to complete work. For example, students may miss up to 10 minutes a day of recess Monday through Thursday and all of recess on Friday to complete work if needed.

## 6. Other School Based Activities

### A. Use of School Facilities Outside of School Hours

1. School spaces and facilities, such as playgrounds, tennis courts and track, may be made available to students, staff and community members before and after the school day; on weekends; and during school vacations. School policies concerning safety will apply at all times.

### C. Staff Wellness



1. The school corporation will promote programs to increase knowledge of physical activity and healthy eating for faculty and staff.
2. Schools will allow staff to use school facilities outside of school hours for activities such as group fitness classes, walking programs and individual use.
3. Staff will be encouraged to participate in community walking, bicycling and running events.
4. All staff involved in physical education will be provided opportunities for professional development focusing on physical activity, fitness, health and wellness.

## **7. Evaluation of Wellness Policy**

### **A. Implementation and Data Collection**

1. The superintendent is responsible for retaining all documentation of compliance with this policy and its regulations, but the principals shall ensure that their individual schools are in compliance with the corporation's wellness policy every three school years by assessing wellness implementation strategies. The Food Service Director shall provide a written report to the superintendent, who will provide the report to the school board. The Food Service Director's report shall contain the following information: the school's progress toward meeting the wellness goals over the previous three school years; the website address for the wellness policy and how the public can receive a copy of the policy; a description of the progress in meeting the goals, a summary of the events or activities related to the implementation of the policy; the name, position, and contact information of the school official coordinating the school's wellness team; and information on how individuals and the public can get involved with the school's wellness team.
2. The evaluation of the wellness policy and implementation will be directed by the wellness committee and will be responsible for the three-year assessment of each school's compliance with the policy and its regulations. The three-year assessment must measure the implementation of this policy and its regulations; the extent to which each school is following the policy; the extent this policy compares to other model school wellness policies; and a description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy. As a result of this assessment and evaluation the policy and regulations will be revised as needed.
3. The three-year assessment and evaluation report will be made available to the public by posting it on the school corporation website.

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1. **mail:**  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **fax:**  
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:**  
[Program.Intake@usda.gov](mailto:Program.Intake@usda.gov)

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