



Book	Policy Manual
Section	8000 Operations
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Legal	42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq. 42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.
Adopted	June 9, 2025

8510 - **WELLNESS**

As required by law, the Board for the School District of Wisconsin Rapids establishes the following wellness policy.

Policy Preamble

The Board recognizes that good nutrition and regular physical activity affect the health and well-being of the District's students. Furthermore, research suggests that there is a positive correlation between a student's health and well-being and their ability to learn. Moreover, schools can play an important role in the developmental process by which students establish their health and nutrition habits by providing nutritious meals and snacks through the schools' meal programs, by supporting the development of good eating habits, and by promoting increased physical activity both in and out of school.

Schools alone, however, cannot develop in students healthy behaviors and habits with regard to eating and exercise cannot be accomplished by the schools alone. It will be necessary for not only the staff, but also parents and the public at large to be involved in a community-wide effort to promote, support, and model such healthy behaviors and habits.

The Board sets the following goals in an effort to enable students to establish good health and nutrition choices to:

- A. promote nutrition education with the objective of improving students' health;
- B. improve the health and well-being of our children, increase consumption of healthful foods during the school day, and create an environment that reinforces the development of healthy eating habits;
- C. promote nutrition guidelines, a healthy eating environment, child nutrition programs, and food safety and security on each school campus with the objective of promoting student health;
- D. provide opportunities for every student to develop the knowledge and skills for specific physical activities, maintain physical fitness, regularly participate in physical activity, and understand the short and long-term benefits of a physically active lifestyle;
- E. promote the health and wellness of students and staff through other school based activities.

Wellness Policy Leadership

The Superintendent shall implement and ensure compliance with the policy by leading the review, update, and evaluation of the policy and is authorized to designate a staff member or members with responsibility to assure that wellness initiatives are followed in the District's schools.

The designated official for oversight of the wellness policy is Melanie Hanneman, the Director of Food Service. The official shall convene the Wellness Committee and lead the review, updating, and evaluation of the policy.

Each school shall designate a site coordinator who shall ensure compliance with the policy.

Required Public Involvement

The Superintendent shall obtain the input of District collaborators to participate in the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the policy. The collaborators may include parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, educational staff (including physical education teachers), school health professionals, Board members, members of the public, medical/health care professionals, and other school administrators. School-level health advisory or wellness committees may assist in the planning and implementation of these Wellness initiatives.

District Wellness Committee

Committee Formation

The District shall convene a Wellness Committee that meets at least four (4) times during the school year to establish goals and oversee school health policies and programs, including development, implementation, and periodic review and update of this Wellness Policy.

Committee Representatives

The District shall invite a diverse group of collaborators to participate in the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the Wellness Policy.

Nutrition Standard for All Foods

The District is committed to serving healthy meals to our students. The school meal programs aim to improve the diet and health of school children, model healthy eating patterns, and support healthy choices while accommodating cultural food preferences and special dietary needs.

School Meal Programs

Standards and Guidelines for School Meal Programs

- A. All meals meet or exceed current nutrition requirements established under the Healthy Hunger-free Kids Act of 2010. (<https://www.fns.usda.gov/nslp/national-school-lunch-program-meal-pattern-chart>)
- B. Drinking water is available for students during mealtimes.
- C. All schools in the District participate in USDA child nutrition programs.
- D. All meals are accessible to all students.
- E. Withholding food as a punishment shall be strictly prohibited.
- F. All meals are appealing and attractive and served in clean and pleasant settings.
- G. When drinking fountains are not present in the cafeteria, water cups/jugs are available.
- H. Students are provided at least ten (10) minutes to eat breakfast and at least twenty (20) to eat lunch after being seated.
- I. All school campuses except Lincoln High School are "closed" meaning that students are not permitted to leave the school grounds during the school day.
- J. Menus shall be posted on the District website and will include nutrient content.
- K. Menus shall be created/reviewed by a Registered Dietitian or other certified nutrition professional.
- L. All school nutrition program directors, managers, and staff shall meet or exceed hiring and annual continuing education/training requirements in the USDA professional standards for child nutrition professionals.

School Meal Program Participation

The District:

- A. shall notify parents of the availability of the breakfast, lunch, and summer food programs and shall be encouraged to determine eligibility for reduced or free meals;
- B. shall allow students the opportunity to provide input on menu items;
- C. shall explore the use of nontraditional breakfast service models (such as breakfast in the classroom) to increase breakfast participation.

Standards for Foods and Beverages Sold Outside of School Meals

- All food and beverages sold and served outside of the school meal programs ("competitive" foods and beverages) shall, at a minimum, meet the standards established in USDA's Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in Schools
- A. (Smart Snacks) rule. <https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/smartsnacks.pdf>
 - B. All food and beverages sold to students during before and after school programs shall meet the USDA Smart Snack nutrition standards.

Foods Offered/Provided but Not Sold

The District encourages foods offered on the school campus meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards including those provided at celebrations and parties and classroom snacks brought by staff or family members. Non-food celebrations will be promoted and a list of ideas is available.

Fund-Raising

- Schools will restrict food and beverage marketing to only those foods and beverages that meet the nutrition standards set forth by USDA's Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in Schools (Smart Snacks) rule.
- A. standards set forth by USDA's Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in Schools (Smart Snacks) rule.
 - B. The District adheres to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction fund-raiser exemption policy and allows two (2) exempt fund-raisers per student organization per school per year. All other fund-raisers sold during the school day will meet the Smart Snacks nutrition standards. No restrictions are placed on the sale of food/beverage items sold outside of the school day.
 - C. Foods and beverages that meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks standards may be sold through fund-raisers during the school day. No restrictions are placed on the sale of food/beverage items sold outside of the school day.
 - D. The District allows up to two (2) exempt fund-raisers per school-sponsored organizations for up to a two (2) week period per school per year. All other fund-raisers sold during the school day will meet the Smart Snacks nutrition standards. No restrictions are placed on the sale of food/beverage items sold outside of the school day.

Nutrition Education

- A. Staff shall integrate nutrition education into other classroom subjects, such as math, science, language arts, social sciences, and elective subjects.
- B. The primary goal of nutrition education is to influence students' lifelong eating behaviors.
- C. Schools shall provide nutrition education that helps students develop lifelong healthy eating behaviors.
- D. Nutrition education shall be included in the Health curriculum so that instruction is sequential and standards-based and provides students with the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to lead healthy lives.
- E. Staff members responsible for nutrition education will regularly participate in relevant professional development.
- F. Nutrition education will provide the knowledge and skills necessary to promote health.

- G. Nutrition education shall include enjoyable, developmentally appropriate, and culturally relevant participatory activities, such as contests, promotions, taste testing, and others.
- H. Nutrition education shall include opportunities for appropriate student projects related to nutrition, involving, when possible, community agencies and organizations.
- I. Nutrition education shall extend beyond the classroom by engaging and involving the school's food service staff.
- J. Nutrition education posters, such as the MyPlate Guide, will be displayed in the cafeteria.
- K. The school cafeteria shall serve as a learning lab by allowing students to apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills taught in the classroom when making choices at mealtime.
- L. Nutrition education shall extend beyond the school by engaging and involving families and the community.
- M. Nutrition education shall reinforce lifelong balance by emphasizing the link between caloric intake (eating) and exercise in ways that are age-appropriate.
- N. Nutrition education standards and benchmarks promote the benefits of a balanced diet that includes fruits, vegetables, whole grain products, and low-fat and fat-free dairy products.
- O. Staff responsible for providing instruction in nutrition education shall regularly participate in professional development activities designed to better enable them to teach the benchmarks and standards.
- P. Instruction related to the standards and benchmarks for nutrition education shall be provided by highly qualified teachers.
- Q. Nutrition education shall be provided to families via handouts, newsletters, postings on the website, presentations, and workshops.

Nutrition Promotion

- A. The District is committed to providing a school environment that encourages students to practice healthy eating and physical activity. Students shall receive consistent nutrition messages that promote health throughout schools, classrooms, cafeterias, and school media.
- B. School nutrition services shall use the Wisconsin Team Nutrition Meal Appeal Self-Assessment ([dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/wisconsin-school-meals-rock/ files/meal-appeal-self-assessment.pdf](https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/wisconsin-school-meals-rock/files/meal-appeal-self-assessment.pdf)) to determine ways to improve the school meals environment.
- C. School nutrition services shall purchase locally grown/produced products each year.
- D. School nutrition services shall menu at least one (1) local food(s) per month.

Physical Activity

- A. Children and adolescents should participate in sixty (60) minutes of physical activity every day. The District shall provide students with physical education, using an age-appropriate, sequential physical education curriculum consistent with national and State standards for physical education. The District shall also provide opportunities for students to participate in physical activity in addition to physical education.
- B. The District shall provide students with age and grade-appropriate opportunities to engage in physical activity.
- C. Physical activity and movement shall be integrated, when possible, across the curricula and throughout the school day.
- D. Schools shall encourage families to provide physical activity outside the regular school day, such as outdoor play at home, participation in sports sponsored by community agencies or organizations, and in lifelong physical activities like bowling, swimming, or tennis.
- E. All students in grades K-5 shall be provided with a daily recess period at least twenty (20) minutes in duration. Recess shall not be used as a reward or punishment.

- F. Outdoor recess shall be offered weather permitting.
- G. Opportunities to participate in physical activity shall be promoted throughout the school.
- H. The District shall support active transport to and from school by engaging in the following activities:
 - 1. Designation of safe or preferred routes to school.
 - 2. Secure storage facilities for bicycles (e.g., bike racks, shed, fenced area).
 - 3. Promotion of safe routes program to students, staff, and parents via newsletters, websites, local newspaper.
 - 4. Crossing guards are used.
 - 5. Crosswalks exist on streets leading to schools.
- I. The school shall provide information to families to encourage and assist them in their efforts to incorporate physical activity into their children's daily lives.
- J. In addition to planned physical education, the school shall provide age-appropriate physical activities (e.g., recess during the school day, intramurals and clubs before and after school, and interscholastic sports) that meet the needs of all students, including males, females, students with disabilities, and students with special health care needs.
- K. All students in grades 6 -12 shall have the opportunity to participate in interscholastic sports programs.

Physical Education

- A. A sequential, comprehensive physical education program shall be provided for students in K-12 in accordance with the physical education academic content standards and benchmarks adopted by the State.
- B. The sequential, comprehensive physical education curriculum shall provide students with opportunities to learn, practice, and be assessed on developmentally appropriate knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to engage in lifelong, health-enhancing physical activity.
- C. Planned instruction in physical education shall be sufficient for students to achieve a proficient level with regard to the standards and benchmarks adopted by the State.
- D. All District elementary students in each grade shall receive at least 60 minutes of physical education per week throughout the school year.
- E. All District elementary students in each grade shall have physical education a minimum of three (3) times per week.
- F. All District middle school students in each grade shall receive at least 45 minutes of physical education per week throughout the school year.
- G. All District middle school students are required to take the equivalent of one (1) academic year of physical education.
- H. All-District high school students are required to receive at least 1.5 credits of physical education prior to graduation unless the District allows for the substitution of 0.5 credit per Policy 5460 - Graduation Requirements.
- I. Waivers, exemptions, or substitutions for physical education classes are not granted.
- J. Students shall be moderately to vigorously active for at least fifty percent (50%) of class time during all physical education class sessions.
- K. Planned instruction in physical education shall promote participation in physical activity outside the regular school day.
- L. The physical education curriculum shall provide sequential instruction related to the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to participate in lifelong, health-enhancing physical activity.
- M. Physical education classes shall provide students with opportunities to learn, practice, and be assessed on developmentally appropriate knowledge and attitudes necessary to engage in lifelong, health-enhancing physical

activity.

- N. The sequential, comprehensive physical education curriculum shall stress the importance of remaining physically active for life.
- O. The K-12 program shall include instruction in physical education as well as opportunities to participate in competitive and non-competitive team sports to encourage lifelong physical activity.
- P. All physical education classes are taught by licensed teachers who are certified to teach physical education.
- Q. In health education classes, the District shall include topics of physical activity, including: the physical, psychological, or social benefits of physical activity; how physical activity can contribute to a healthy weight; how physical activity can contribute to the academic learning process; how an inactive lifestyle contributes to chronic disease; and decreasing sedentary activities.
- R. Planned instruction in physical education shall teach cooperation, fair play, and responsible participation.
- S. Planned instruction in physical education shall meet the needs of all students, including those who are not athletically gifted.
- T. Planned instruction in physical education shall be presented in an environment free of embarrassment, humiliation, shaming, taunting, bullying, or harassment of any kind.
- U. Planned instruction in physical education shall include cooperative as well as competitive games.
- V. Planned instruction in physical education shall take into account gender and cultural differences.

Other Activities That Promote School Wellness

- A. Students, parents, and other community members shall have access to, and be encouraged to use, the school's outdoor physical activity facilities outside the normal school day.
- B. The District supports the implementation of other programs that help create a school environment that conveys consistent wellness messages in an effort to promote student well-being.
- C. As appropriate, schools shall support students, staff, and parents' efforts to maintain a healthy lifestyle.
- D. Students shall be allowed to bring and carry throughout the day approved water bottles filled with only water.
- E. The school may provide opportunities for staff, parents, and other community members to model healthy eating habits by dining with students in the school dining areas.

Staff Wellness

The District will implement the following activities below to promote healthy eating and physical activity among school staff.

- A. An organized wellness program shall be available to all staff.
- B. Educational activities for school staff members on healthy lifestyle behaviors.
- C. Distribution of an employee health newsletter to promote healthy behaviors.
- D. Administration of flu shots at school.

Community Engagement

- A. The District shall work with community partners to support District wellness.
- B. The District shall inform and invite parents to participate in school-sponsored activities throughout the year.
- C. The District may provide information on how the public can participate in the school wellness committee on an annual basis.

Monitoring and Evaluation - Triennial Assessment

The District will evaluate compliance with the Wellness Policy no less than once every three years. The assessment will include the extent to which each school is in compliance with the policy, progress towards meeting policy goals, and how the policy compares to a model policy, as established by the USDA. The District will use the Wisconsin Local Wellness Policy Triennial Assessment Report Card to fulfill the triennial assessment requirement. The results of the triennial assessment will be made available to the public.

Update/Inform the Public

The District will actively inform and update the public about the content of and any updates to the policy through the District website and Board meetings.

Record Retention

The Superintendent shall require that the District retains documentation pertaining to the development, review, evaluation, and update of the policy.

Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. The District's nondiscrimination statement below is complementary to the District's nondiscrimination policies, including Policy 2260 - Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Opportunity and Policy 1422/Policy 3122/Policy 4122 - Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

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. E-mail:
program.intake@usda.gov.

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