

Instruction

Wellness Policies on Physical Activity and Nutrition *(Most recent review: August 25, 2012)*

Policy adopted: September 10, 2005 (Archdiocesan Board of Education)

Revised: August 25, 2012 (Archdiocesan Faith Formation Commission and Archdiocesan Catholic School Board)

Catholic Schools “exist in order to educate the whole person; mind, body, and soul”.¹

In educating students about the body, they strive to develop “a profound reverence for the great gift of life, their own lives and the lives of others, along with readiness to spend themselves in serving all that preserves and enhances life.”²

The schools governed by the Archdiocesan Catholic School Board strive to maintain a learning and working environment that promotes and protects children’s health, well-being, and ability to learn by supporting healthy eating and physical activity.

Therefore:

1. Schools will engage students, parents, teachers, food service professionals, health professionals, and other interested community members in developing, implementing, monitoring, and reviewing local nutrition and physical activity practices and policies.
2. Each school shall form a local committee, which includes representation from the following: students, parents, teachers (including physical education/wellness instructors), food service staff, school board, administration, school health professionals, and the public. This committee is charged with the operational responsibility for ensuring that the school develops a local wellness plan that meets the requirements of this policy. This committee shall appoint a school official to ensure compliance with this policy. Consideration may be given to expanding the School Improvement Advisory Committee (SIAC), or establishing a subcommittee of the SIAC, to serve as the local review committee.

Local Plan Requirements:

3. Ensure that all students in grades K-12 will have opportunities, support, and encouragement to be physically active on a regular basis. This will include an articulated curriculum, offering a wide range of activities leading to lifelong physical health.
4. Foods and beverages sold or served at school will meet the nutrition recommendations of the U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans and be in compliance with state and federal law, including the [Iowa Healthy Kids Act](#).
5. Schools will provide nutrition education and promotion and physical education to foster lifelong habits of healthy eating and physical activity, and will establish linkages between health education and school meal programs, with related community services.
6. Periodically make available to the school’s constituents (including parents, students and others in the community) an assessment on the implementation of the local plan, including the extent to which the school is in compliance with this policy, the extent to which the local plan compares to the model plan, and to describe the progress made in attaining the goals.

7. Annually inform and update the school's constituents about the content and implementation of the local plan.

Lunch/Breakfast Programs

8. Food Service personnel will provide students with access to a variety of affordable, nutritious, and appealing foods that meet the health and nutrition needs of students; will accommodate the religious, ethnic, and cultural diversity of the student body in meal planning; and will provide clean, safe, and pleasant settings and adequate time for students to eat.
9. To the extent it is possible, schools will participate in available federal school meal programs (including the School Breakfast Program, National School Lunch Program [including after-school snacks], Summer Food Service Program, Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program, and Child and Adult Care Food Program [including suppers]).
10. Guidelines for reimbursable school meals shall not be less restrictive than regulations and guidance issued by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010.

¹ *National Directory of Catechesis* 61.4.b

² *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*

2004 Child Nutrition Reauthorization
Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010
USDA Food and Nutrition memo #SP-42-2011

See also AFFC & ACSB policies:

- 5131.6 Substance Abuse Education
- 5131.61 Tobacco Usage
- 5141 Health Services
- 5141.1 Immunizations