

TPCS Wellness Policy on Physical Activity and Nutrition

The Board of Directors of Traders Point Christian Schools 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 TPCS Leadership 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 or exceed the federal nutritional guidelines issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

A review of the TPCS Wellness Policy will take place annually involving TPCS Leadership, Physical Education instructors, TPCS Head Nurse, and the Director of Dining Services. The School Wellness Policy shall be made available to students and families by means of the student handbook, Parent Square, and the TPCS website.

I. Coordinated School Health Advisory Council

In addition to TPCS Leadership, engagement will be made of parents/guardians, food service professionals, teachers of physical education, students, school health care professionals, school board members, school administrators, and other interested community members in developing, implementing, monitoring and reviewing corporation-wide nutrition and physical activity policies.

1. A Coordinated School Health Advisory Council will be formed and maintained at the school-wide level to oversee the development, implementation and evaluation of the wellness policy. In accordance with state and federal law, TPCS Leadership will form and maintain a school-wide level Coordinated School Health Advisory Council that includes at least the following:
 - Parents/Guardians
 - Food Service Director/Professionals
 - Teachers of Physical Education
 - Students
 - School health care professionals/Registered Dietitians/School Nurse
 - School board members
 - School administrators
 - Any interested member of the public
 - Representatives of interested community organizations (Mike Lynch/ TPCC)
2. 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.
3. The Advisory Council shall report annually to TPCS Leadership on the implementation of the wellness policy and include any recommended changes or revisions.
4. TPCS Leadership will adopt or revise nutrition and physical activity policies based on recommendations made by the Advisory Council.

II. 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.

III. Standards for USDA Child Nutrition Programs and School Meals

TPCS Leadership 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.

IV. Nutrition Standards for Competitive and Other Foods and Beverages

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

TPCS Leadership 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.

V. Physical Activity and Physical Education

TPCS Leadership supports the health and well-being of students by promoting physical activity through physical education, recess and other physical activity breaks; before- and after-school activities; and walking and bicycling to school. Additionally, the board supports physical activity among elementary students by providing them with at least 30 of the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity per day.

VI. Other Activities that Promote Student Wellness

TPCS Leadership 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.

VII. Evaluation

Through implementation and enforcement of this policy, TPCS Leadership 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. TPCS Leadership will notify the public of the results of the three-year assessment and evaluation.

The board designates the Head of School to ensure compliance with this policy and its administrative regulations. The Head of School and Director of Dining Services are 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. The Head of School will also be responsible for public notification of the three-year assessment and evaluation report, including any updates to this policy made as a result of the corporation's three-year assessment and evaluation.

LEGAL REFERENCE: 42 U.S.C. 1758b

7 CFR Part 210

I.C. 20-26-9-18.5

Administrative Regulations:

I. Nutrition education

1. Health education will be provided as part of a comprehensive health education program.
2. TPCS Leadership will provide nutrition education training opportunities to teachers and staff for all grade levels.

II. 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. 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.
3. 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 cafeterias to make healthier choices more appealing.
4. Foods of minimal nutritional value, including brands and illustrations, shall not be advertised or marketed in educational materials.

IV. Standards for USDA Child Nutrition Programs and School Meals

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 fats
 - Offer a variety of fruits and vegetables
 - 100 percent of the grains offered are 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. The food services department shall provide periodic food promotions that will allow for taste testing of new healthier foods being introduced on the menu.
5. Special dietary needs of students will be considered when planning meals, according to the document *Accommodating Children with Special Dietary Needs in the School Nutrition Programs*.
6. The food services department will share and publicize information about the nutritional content of meals with students and parents/guardians. The information will be available in a variety of forms that can include handouts, the school website, articles, school newsletters, presentations that focus on nutrition and healthy lifestyles, and through any other appropriate means available to reach families.

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 breakfasts that encourage participation, including serving breakfast in the classroom, serving “grab-and-go” breakfasts and arranging transportation schedules to allow for earlier arrival times.
3. Schools will inform families of the availability and location of Summer Food Service Program meals, in accordance with the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010. Schools in which more than 50 percent of students are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals will sponsor the Summer Food Service Program when feasible.

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. School meals will be served in clean and pleasant settings.
3. Students will have convenient access to hand-washing and sanitizing stations.
4. Potable (drinking) water must be readily available at all mealtimes.
5. Appropriate supervision will be provided in the cafeteria and rules for safe behavior shall be consistently enforced.

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.

V. Nutrition Standards for Competitive and Other Food and Beverages

Approved Nutrition Standards, based on the nutrition standards of the Institute of Medicine (2007).

1. K-12 à la carte, school vending machines and other foods outside of school meals shall be limited to:
 - No more than 30 percent of total calories from fat

- Less than 10 percent of total calories from saturated fats
 - 0 percent trans fats
 - No more than 35 percent of calories from total sugars
 - No more than 200 milligrams of sodium per portion as packaged
 - No more than 200 calories per package
 - 100 percent of the grains offered are whole grain-rich.
2. K-12 à la carte, school vending machines and other beverages outside of school meals shall be limited to:
- Water without flavoring, additives, or carbonation
 - Low-fat and nonfat milk (in 8- to 12-ounce portions)
 - 100% fruit juice in 4-ounce portions as packaged for elementary/middle school and 8 ounces (2 portions) for high school
 - All beverages other than water, white milk or juice shall be no larger than 12 ounces

Availability

1. A vending machine at an elementary school that dispenses food or beverage items may not be accessible to students.
2. Vending machines in middle and high schools:
 - Will not be available during mealtimes
 - Will contain items that meet the approved nutrition standards
3. Vending machines for school staff will not be accessible to students.
4. Food and beverages will not be sold in school stores.
5. Students and staff will have free, potable (drinking) water for consumption available in water fountains throughout the school building.

Classroom Celebrations

1. Classroom celebrations will focus on activities and any food offered will be store-bought.

Food as a Reward or Punishment

1. Teachers and staff will be dissuaded from using food as a reward.
2. School staff will not withhold food or drink at mealtimes as punishment.
3. 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).

VI. Physical Activity and Physical Education

Physical Education K-12

1. All students in grades K-12 will participate in 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. Waivers will not apply towards the physical education courses required for a diploma. Credit flexibility in physical education will be limited to elective physical education courses.
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.

Daily Recess and Physical Activity Breaks

1. Each 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 physical activity break in the classroom.
3. All teachers will be encouraged to use physical activity breaks during classroom time as often 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.

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, taking into account student interest and supervisor availability.
2. After-school enrichment providers will include physical activity in their programs, to the extent space and equipment allow.

Physical Activity and Remedial Activities/Punishment

1. Students will not be removed or excused from physical education to receive instruction in other content areas.
2. School staff will not use harsh physical activity (e.g., running laps, pushups) or withhold opportunities for physical activity (e.g., recess, physical education) as punishment.

VI. Other School Based Activities

Walking and Bicycling to School

1. Where appropriate and safe, schools will allow walking and bicycling to school.
2. To the extent possible, the school corporation will make improvements so it is safer, easier and more enjoyable for students to walk and bicycle to school.

Staff Wellness

1. The school corporation will work with local fitness centers to offer reduced membership fees when applicable.
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. Physical education will be taught by a licensed physical education instructor.
4. All staff involved in physical education will be provided opportunities for professional development focusing on physical activity, fitness, health and wellness.
5. Schools will promote breastfeeding by making reasonable efforts to provide a private location for employees to express breast milk in accordance with IC 22-2-14-2.

VII. Evaluation of Wellness Policy

Implementation and Data Collection

1. The Head of School 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.
2. The evaluation of the wellness policy and implementation will be directed by the Coordinated School Health Advisory Council 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 in compliance with 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 will be made available to the public by posting it on the school corporation website.