

**Chebeague Island School Department
School Committee Policy**

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STUDENT WELLNESS

The School Committee recognizes that student wellness and good nutrition are related to students' physical and psychological well-being and their readiness to learn. The School Committee is committed to providing a school environment that supports student wellness, healthy food choices, nutrition education, and regular physical activity. The School Committee believes that students who learn and practice healthy lifestyles in their formative years may be more likely to be conscious of the importance of good nutrition and exercise as adults, practice healthy habits, and reduce their risk of obesity, diabetes and other chronic diseases.

Nutrition Standards

The school unit will ensure that meals provided by its Food Services Program meet the nutrition standards established by the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, and other applicable Federal child nutrition programs.

Other foods and beverages sold or available for sale to students during the school day ("competitive foods") will meet the federal Smart Snacks guidelines.

Water

To promote hydration, free, safe, unflavored drinking water will be available to students throughout the school day, including mealtimes, at school.

Nutrition Education

Nutrition education will be integrated into the instructional program through the health education program and/or the curriculum as aligned with the content standards of Maine's system of Learning Results. Nutrition education should focus on skills students need to adopt and maintain healthy eating behaviors. Students should receive consistent nutrition messages throughout the school, including classrooms, cafeteria, and school-home communications.

Nutrition Promotion

The school will support healthful eating by students and encourage parents/guardians to provide healthy meals for their children by providing consistent nutrition messages and information and by cooperation with other agencies and organizations.

**Chebeague Island School Department
School Committee Policy**

JL

Staff Qualifications and Professional Development

The school nutrition program director, manager and staff will meet or exceed hiring and annual continuing education/training requirements in the USDA standards for school nutrition professionals.

Foods and Beverages for Celebrations and Rewards

The School Committee delegates to the Superintendent/designee(s) the responsibility for guidelines for “healthy celebrations,” with the intent that refreshments served at parties or celebrations during the school day, whether supplied by parents or staff, meet the “Smart Snacks” standards.

Foods used as rewards in the instructional program must meet “Smart Snacks” standards.

Physical Activity

The school unit will strive to provide all students developmentally appropriate opportunities for physical activity through physical education classes, recess periods for elementary school students, and extracurricular activities (clubs, intramural and interscholastic athletics). School programs are intended to build and maintain physical fitness and to promote healthy lifestyles. The school should encourage parents to support their children’s participation in physical activities, including available before- and after-school programs.

Other School-Based Activities

The school, with prior approval of the Superintendent/designee, may implement other appropriate programs that support consistent wellness messages and promote healthy eating and physical activity.

The school unit may develop programs that encourage staff to learn and engage in healthy lifestyle practices.

Leadership

The Superintendent/designee shall be responsible for the oversight of development and implementation of the wellness policy in the school. This includes ensuring that the school unit evaluates its school’s compliance with the wellness policy and progress in attaining wellness goals and making required information available to the public.

**Chebeague Island School Department
School Committee Policy**

JL

The evaluation process must include a comparison of the wellness plan with model local wellness policies, and it may include surveys or solicitation of input from students, parents, staff, and school administration, including suggestions for improvement in specific areas.

Annual Notification of Policy

The school unit will annually inform families and the public of basic information about the wellness policy, including its content, any updates, and implementation status. This information will be made available on the school unit’s website. It will include the contact information for the person coordinating the Food Service Program.

Triennial Progress Assessments

Every three years, the Food Services Director will:

Assess extent to which the school unit’s schools are in compliance with the wellness Policy;

Assess the extent to which the school unit’s wellness policy compares to model wellness policies; and

Provide a description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the school unit’s wellness policy.

The school unit’s Food Services Director will recommend updates to the wellness policy based on the results of the triennial assessment and/or as:

The school unit’s priorities change;

Community needs change;

Wellness goals are met;

New evidence-based health science emerges; or

New or updated Federal or State regulations are issued.

Parent Communications

The school unit will inform parents of improvements that have been made to school meal standards; availability of child nutrition programs and how to apply; the school unit’s meal charging policy; and a

**Chebeague Island School Department
School Committee Policy**

JL

list of healthy celebration party ideas (including a list of foods and beverages that meet the Smart Snacks standards).

Food and Beverage Advertising in Schools and On School Grounds

Brand-specific advertising of food or beverages is prohibited in school buildings and on school grounds except for those meeting the standards for sale or distribution on school grounds in accordance with 20-A MRSA § 6662(2), i.e., those that meet Smart Snacks standards).

The School Committee regards the following as “advertising” for the purpose of this policy:

Brand names, logos or tags, except those that are present as labels on the food or beverage product or its container;

Displays, such as vending machine exteriors;

Corporate brands logos, names or trademarks on school equipment such as message boards or scoreboards;

Corporate brands, logos, names or trademarks on cups used for beverage dispensing, menu boards, coolers, trash cans and other food service equipment;

Corporate brands, logos, names or trademarks on posters, book covers, or school supplies distributed or offered by the school unit;

Advertisements in school and school unit publications or mailings;

Product coupons or free samples.

“Advertising” does not include advertising on broadcast media or in print media such as newspapers and magazines, clothing with brand images worn on school grounds or advertising on product packaging.

Corporate brand names, logos and trademarks for *companies* that market products that comply with the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards will not be prohibited solely because they offer some noncompliant food or beverage items in their product line.

Wellness Goals

The School Committee has identified the following goals associated with student wellness:

**Chebeague Island School Department
School Committee Policy**

JL

Goals for Nutrition Education

The school will provide nutrition education that focuses on the skills students need to adopt and maintain healthy eating behaviors.

The school's nutrition education will be provided in a sequential, comprehensive health education program aligned with the content standards of the Maine system of Learning Results.

Nutrition education will be integrated into other subjects as appropriate to complement, not replace, the health education program.

The school unit will provide foods that meet or exceed the federal nutrition standards, adequate time for students to obtain food and eat, lunch scheduled at appropriate hours of the day.

Appropriate professional development will be provided for food services staff.

Goals for Nutrition Promotion

School unit staff will cooperate with agencies and community organizations to provide opportunities for nutrition-related student projects and learning experiences.

Consistent nutrition messages will be disseminated throughout the school unit in the classroom, the cafeteria, and school-home communications.

Administrators and staff will be encouraged to model nutritious food choices and eating habits.

The school will encourage parents/guardians to provide healthy meals and snacks for their children through take-home materials or other means.

Students will have access to clean and safe drinking water throughout the school day and during school activities.

The school will promote consumption of water as an essential element in maintaining overall health and wellness.

Goals for Physical Activity

The physical education program will provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to be physically fit and take part in healthful physical activity on a regular basis.

Students will develop motor skills and apply them to enhance their coordination and physical performance.

Chebeague Island School Department

**Chebeague Island School Department
School Committee Policy**

JL

Students will demonstrate responsible personal and social behaviors in physical activity settings.

The physical education curriculum will be aligned with the content standards of the Maine system of Learning Results.

Physical education classes will keep all students involved in purposeful activity for a majority of the class period.

Physical education classes will provide opportunity to learn for students of all abilities.

The school will provide a physical and social environment that encourages safe and enjoyable physical activity and fosters the development of a positive attitude toward health and fitness.

The school will provide facilities adequate to implement the physical education curriculum for the number of students served.

The school will promote efforts to provide opportunities for students to engage in age-appropriate activities on most days of the week in both school and community settings.

The school will provide opportunities for physical activity through a variety of before- and/or after-school programs including, but not limited to, intramural sports, interscholastic athletics and physical activity clubs.

Appropriate professional development will be provided for physical education staff and other staff involved in the delivery of such programs.

Goals for Other School-Based Activities

Goals of the wellness policy will be considered when planning school or classroom parties, celebrations or events.

Parents will be encouraged to provide nutritionally sound snacks from home and food for classroom parties or events.

The school will encourage maximum participation in school meal programs.

The school will encourage parents and students to take advantage of developmentally appropriate community-based after-school programs that emphasize physical activity.

The school will encourage parents to support their children's participation in physical activity, to be physically active role models, and to include physical activity in family events.

**Chebeague Island School Department
School Committee Policy**

JL

As feasible, school physical activity facilities will be made available after school hours for student, parent and community use to encourage participation in physical activity.

School administrators, staff, parents, students and community members will be encouraged to serve as role models in practicing healthy eating and being physically active, both in the school environment and at home.

Student organizations will be encouraged to engage in fundraising projects that are supportive of healthy eating and student wellness.

School-based marketing of foods and beverages, such as through advertisements in school publications, school buildings, athletic fields, and other areas accessible to students should support the goals of the wellness policy.

The school is encouraged to cooperate with agencies and community organizations to support programs that contribute to good nutrition and physical activity.

Legal Reference: 42 U.S.C. § 1751 (Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act)
7 CFR Parts 210 and 220
20-A MRSA § 6662
Me. Dept. of Educ. Rule Ch. 51

Cross Reference: EFE – Competitive Food Sales–Sales of Foods in Competition with
the School Food Service Program

Adopted: March 12, 2019