

Local Wellness Policy: Triennial Assessment

Background

A local school wellness policy is a written document that guides a local education agency's (LEA) or school district's efforts to establish a school environment that promotes students' health, well-being and ability to learn. The wellness policy requirement was strengthened by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids (HHKA) Act of 2010. An assessment of the school wellness policy must be conducted a minimum of once every three years; however, LEAs may assess the policy more frequently.

Triennial Recordkeeping

This assessment resource is offered as a way to summarize the information gathered during the assessment. It contains the three required components:

1. Compliance with the wellness policy
2. How the wellness policy compares to model wellness policies
3. Progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy

LEAs can document the assessment in other formats as long as the three required components are included. Keep a copy of the most recent triennial assessment, school building progress reports and additional supporting documentation on file. These will be needed during a School Nutrition Program administrative review.

Public Updates

HHKA requires that LEAs make the following available to the public on an annual basis:

- The wellness policy, including any updates
- Position title of the designated school official(s) who lead the local wellness committee
- Information on how the public can get involved with the local wellness committee
- The Triennial assessment also needs to be made available to the public every 3 years

Resources

- [Iowa Sample Wellness Policy](#): Developed by Iowa Association of School Boards and Iowa Department of Education, can be utilized as a guide when updating policies.
- [Healthy Choices Count 5-2-1-0 Registered Sites](#): Iowa Healthiest State Initiative has a registration process for schools that includes a questionnaire of current policies and practices. The questionnaire can be used as a tool to review and update the policy

Section 1: General Information and Wellness Committee

LEA (Local Education Agency) name	Clarinda Community Schools
Date Triennial Assessment was completed	November 7th, 2024
Date of last wellness policy review	3/27/24
How often does the school wellness committee meet? Date of last meeting?	Twice a year/ August 14th, 2024
Were the required annual public notifications completed this year?	Currently Working on

Designated School Wellness Leader—LEAs must designate at least one school official responsible for determining the extent to which each school under their jurisdiction follows the wellness policy.

Name:	Julia Harris
Job Title:	Food Service Director
Email:	jharris@clarindacsd.org

School Wellness Committee Members—schools must permit involvement from parents, students, school food service, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, school board members, school administrators and general public

Name	Job Title/Volunteer	Email
Kelly Kline	Nurse	kkline@clarindacsd.org
Melissa Wellhausen	Parent	mgiza@yahoo.com
Emily Furst	Parent/Dietician	furstemily@gmail.com
Britni Hill	Nurse Practitioner	brittneyhill12@yahoo.com

Section 2: Compliance with the Wellness Policy

At a minimum, local wellness policies are required to include:

- Specific goals for nutrition promotion and education
- Specific goals for physical activity
- Specific goals for other school-based activities that promote student wellness
- Standards and nutrition guidelines for all foods and beverages sold to students before, during and 30 minutes after the school day
- Standards for all foods and beverages provided, but not sold, to students during the school day (classroom parties, classroom snacks brought by parents, incentives, etc.)
- Policies for food and beverage marketing that allow marketing and advertising of only those foods and beverages that meet the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards
- Description of public involvement, public updates, policy leadership, and evaluation plan.

Another form of documentation for Section 2 is the [School Wellness Policy Checklist](#).

Section 3: Comparison to Model School Wellness Policies

The [Alliance for a Healthier Generation Model Policy](#) is to be used as a best practice guide. Compare local wellness policy language with the model policy and identify areas where the language is comparable to the model policy and potential areas that can be strengthened.

Optional Resource: [WellSAT 3.0](#), Online quantitative tool that determines where revisions are needed to strengthen the language in school wellness policies and provides sample language.

Areas with Similar Language	Potential Areas to Strengthen Language
Physical activity is a very similar area that both discuss.	Access trainings on physical education and activity, more employee wellness, nutrition, social-emotional health and learning more about wellness period.
Out of school activities.	
Student discipline and engagement.	

Section 4: Progress Towards Goals

Evaluate your compliance and progress towards each of your goals using a method of your choosing. The [School Wellness Policy Progress Report](#) is one example that can be used.

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