

California School Boards Association - Model Policy Comparison

This document is designed for a local educational agency to compare its local school wellness policy language with the California School Board Association's Model Local School Wellness Policy.

Select each tab below to continue.

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California Department of Education
June 2021

Instructions

How to Use This Document

Before you begin, gather your current Local School Wellness Policy (LSWP), any district administrative regulations, action plans, or other documents that describe your policy, implementation, evaluation, and review.

Each tab represents the required elements of the LSWP and provides a table to compare your local policy language with the CSBA Model Wellness Policy. Complete following steps for each tab to complete the model policy comparison:

Step 1: Select the tab with the LSWP Requirement you would like to compare.

Step 2: Enter your agency's name and date of your policy comparison at the top of the page (Column A, Rows 2 and 3).

Step 3: Add your agency's name and policy language under the column header [Agency Name] Policy Language.

Step 4: Compare your district's policy language to the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Model Policy Language which reflects the language from the CSBA model policy for the LSWP Requirement selected.

Step 5: Add your comparison analysis and conclusions under the column header Comparison Analysis and Conclusions.

Step 6: Document the next steps needed to continue improving the health of your students and school (examples: make policy language changes, hold a committee meeting, or update implementation plans) under the column header Next Steps.

Step 7: Select the next tab for each of the required elements of the LSWP and repeat the steps above.

Sources

The California Department of Education Local School Wellness Policy web page at:

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/he/wellness.asp>

The California School Boards Association (CSBA) Model Wellness Policy is available at:

<https://www.csba.org/GovernanceAndPolicyResources/ConditionsOfChildren/StudentPhysicalHealthWellness/StudentWellnessPolicy.aspx>

Local School Wellness Policy Requirement: Nutrition Education

Carter G. Woodson

2/9/2026

[Agency Name] Policy Language	California School Boards Association Model Policy Language	Comparison Analysis and Conclusions	Next Steps
<p>Agape Charter Schools aims to teach, encourage, and support healthy eating by students. Schools should provide nutrition education as part of a sequential, comprehensive, standards-based program offered at each grade level and integrated into health, science, physical education, and other subject areas.</p>	<p>The Board shall adopt specific goals for nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that promote student wellness. In developing such goals, the Board shall review and consider evidence-based strategies and techniques. (42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.31).</p> <p>The district's nutrition education and physical education programs shall be based on research, shall be consistent with the expectations established in the state's curriculum frameworks and content standards, and shall be designed to build the skills and knowledge that all students need to maintain a healthy lifestyle.</p> <p>The nutrition education program shall include, but is not limited to, information about the benefits of healthy eating for learning, disease prevention, weight management, and oral health. Nutrition education shall be provided as part of the health education program and, as appropriate, shall be integrated into other academic subjects in the regular educational program, before- and after-school programs, summer learning programs, and school garden programs.</p>	<p>The Nutrition Education section was compared to the California School Boards Association model policy and supports an integrated health education curriculum designed to motivate and help students maintain and promote their health, prevent disease and injury, and reduce behaviors that put their health and safety at risk. The language supports nutrition promotion and student well-being. Opportunities remain to strengthen measurable goal language in future updates.</p>	<p>The district will review measurable goal language during the next policy update cycle and continue monitoring implementation to ensure alignment with federal wellness requirements.</p>

Local School Wellness Policy Requirement: Nutrition Promotion

Carter G. Woodson

2/9/2026

[Agency Name] Policy Language	California School Boards Association Model Policy Language	Comparison Analysis and Conclusions	Next Steps
<p>The program shall promote fruits, vegetables, whole grains, low-fat and fat-free dairy products, healthy food preparation methods, and balanced nutrition practices; emphasize the balance between food intake and physical activity; link with school meal programs and related community services; and include training for staff.</p> <p>Academic performance and quality of life issues are affected by the choice and availability of nutritious foods in our schools. Healthy foods support students' physical growth, brain development, resistance to disease, emotional stability and ability to learn.</p>	<p>The Board shall adopt specific goals for nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that promote student wellness. In developing such goals, the Board shall review and consider evidence-based strategies and techniques. (42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.31).</p>	<p>The district policy aligns with the model by promoting fruits, vegetables, whole grains, low-fat and fat-free dairy products, balanced nutrition practices, and the connection between nutrition and physical activity. The section supports integration with school meal programs and emphasizes the importance of healthy foods in promoting student academic success and overall well-being.</p>	<p>The district will sustain nutrition promotion by integrating nutrition education, school eating, and wellness. This includes healthy food and beverage choices for all students throughout the school campus, as well as encourage participation in school meal programs.</p>

Local School Wellness Policy Requirement: Physical Activity

Carter G. Woodson

[Agency Name] Policy Language	California School Boards Association Model Policy Language	Comparison Analysis and Conclusions	Next Steps
<p>For students to receive the nationally recommended amount of daily physical activity (i.e. at least 60 minutes per day) and for students to fully embrace regular physical activity as personal behavior, students need opportunities for physical activity beyond physical education class.</p>	<p>The Board shall adopt specific goals for nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that promote student wellness. In developing such goals, the Board shall review and consider evidence-based strategies and techniques. (42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.31).</p> <p>The district's nutrition education and physical education programs shall be based on research, shall be consistent with the expectations established in the state's curriculum frameworks and content standards, and shall be designed to build the skills and knowledge that all students need to maintain a healthy lifestyle.</p> <p>All students shall be provided opportunities to be physically active on a regular basis. Opportunities for moderate to vigorous physical activity shall be provided through physical education and recess and may also be provided through school athletic programs, extracurricular programs, before- and after-school programs, summer learning programs, programs encouraging students to walk or bicycle to and from school, in-class physical activity breaks, and other structured and unstructured activities.</p> <p>The Board may enter into a joint use agreement or memorandum of understanding to make district facilities or grounds available for recreational or sports activities outside the school day and/or to use community facilities to expand students' access to opportunity for physical activity.</p>	<p>The Physical Activity section was compared to the California School Boards Association model policy. The district policy aligns with the model by supporting daily physical activity beyond physical education, including required physical education minute requirements, daily elementary recess, and opportunities for classroom-based movement.</p> <p>This Physical Activity section meets the states curriculum and aligns with supporting moderate to vigorous physical activity to support student health and academic success. No significant major revisions were required.</p>	<p>The district will continue to monitor implementation of physical education requirements, daily recess, and classroom-based physical activity opportunities. In future wellness policy review cycles, the district will review opportunities to further reinforce physical activity promotion and ensure ongoing compliance with state and federal requirements.</p>

Local School Wellness Policy Requirement: Other Goals

Carter G. Woodson

LSWP-Other Goal Subtopics	[Agency Name] Policy Language	California School Boards Association Model Policy Language	Comparison Analysis and Conclusions	Next Steps
Health Education		Not addressed in model policy.	[Add your analysis and conclusions here.]	[Add your next steps here.]
Employee Wellness	NA	The Superintendent or designee shall encourage staff to serve as positive role models for healthy eating and physical fitness. He/she shall promote work-site wellness programs and may provide opportunities for regular physical activity among employees.	Employee wellness is addressed in other district policies or initiatives.	The CSBA model policy includes an Employee Wellness section. The district's Local School Wellness Policy focuses on student nutrition and physical activity components as required under federal regulations. Employee wellness is addressed through separate district initiatives and is not currently included within the Local School Wellness Policy.
Social & Emotional School Climate		Not addressed in model policy.	[Add your analysis and conclusions here.]	[Add your next steps here.]
Health Services		In order to ensure that students have access to comprehensive health services, the district may provide access to health services at or near district schools and/or may provide referrals to community resources.	[Add your analysis and conclusions here.]	[Add your next steps here.]
Counseling, Psychologic, and Social Services		Not addressed in model policy.	[Add your analysis and conclusions here.]	[Add your next steps here.]
Community Involvement		Not addressed in model policy.	[Add your analysis and conclusions here.]	[Add your next steps here.]
Physical Environment		Not addressed in model policy.	[Add your analysis and conclusions here.]	[Add your next steps here.]
Family Engagement		Not addressed in model policy.	[Add your analysis and conclusions here.]	[Add your next steps here.]
Other-Professional Development, Anti-bullying, Water	<p>Qualified nutrition professionals shall administer the school meal programs. The district shall provide ongoing professional development for all child nutrition staff. Training opportunities shall be appropriate to staff roles and responsibilities and may include certification programs for directors, managers, and cafeteria staff.</p> <p>*Free, potable water will be made available to all students during each meal service.</p>	<p>Professional development may be regularly offered to the nutrition program director, managers, and staff, as well as health education teachers, physical education teachers, coaches, activity supervisors, and other staff as appropriate to enhance their knowledge and skills related to student health and wellness.</p> <p>The Board recognizes that a safe, positive school environment is also conducive to students' physical and mental health and thus prohibits bullying and harassment of all students, including bullying on the basis of weight or health condition.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall provide access to free, potable water in the food service area during meal times in accordance with Education Code 38086 and 42 USC 1758, and shall encourage students' consumption of water by educating them about the health benefits of water and by serving water in an appealing manner.</p>	<p>The district policy requires qualified nutrition professionals to administer the school meal program and provides continuing professional development appropriate to staff roles and responsibilities. The section aligns with wellness policy expectations and supports effective program implementation. No major revisions were necessary.</p> <p>The CSBA model policy includes an "Other School-Based Activities" section addressing additional wellness-related topics such as school climate and student support services. The district policy focuses on nutrition and physical activity components and does not currently include antibullying language within the Local School Wellness Policy. These topics are addressed in separate district policies and procedures.</p> <p>All school sites have access to free potable water during meal times.</p>	<p>The district will continue to provide ongoing professional development for child nutrition staff to support compliance with federal and state meal requirements. Training opportunities will be reviewed periodically to ensure staff receive appropriate education aligned with their roles and responsibilities and current regulatory updates.</p>

Local School Wellness Policy Requirement: Standards for Foods Sold
Carter G. Woodson

LSWP-Standards for Foods Sold Subtopics	[Agency Name] Policy Language	California School Boards Association Policy Language	Comparison Analysis and Conclusions	Next Steps
School meals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All reimbursable meals will meet nutrition standards mandated by USDA, as well as any additional state nutrition standards that go beyond USDA requirements. School meals will include a variety of nutrient-dense foods, including whole grains and fiber-rich fruits and vegetables, while accommodating special dietary needs and ethnic and cultural food preferences. 	<p>For all foods and beverages available on each campus during the school day, the district shall adopt nutrition guidelines which are consistent with 42 USC 1758, 1766, 1773, and 1779 and federal regulations and which support the objectives of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity. (42 USC 1758b)</p> <p>In order to maximize the district's ability to provide nutritious meals and snacks, all district schools shall participate in available federal school nutrition programs, including the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs and after-school snack programs, to the extent possible. When approved by the California Department of Education, the district may sponsor a summer meal program.</p>	<p>Reimbursable meals meet USDA nutrition standards and applicable state requirements. The district food policy continues to foster provision for nutrient dense dishes including whole grains, fruits and vegetables, as well as special dietary and cultural needs.</p>	<p>Continue ensuring all meals meet USDA meal pattern requirements and district wellness standards. Monitor compliance regularly and promote school meals to maintain strong student participation.</p>
Competitive foods	<p>All foods and beverages sold to students on school campus during the school day shall meet the federal Smart Snacks standards and applicable California competitive food and beverage requirements established by the USDA and the California Department of Education. The district shall ensure compliance with all applicable state and federal regulations governing competitive foods and beverages.</p>	<p>For all foods and beverages available on each campus during the school day, the district shall adopt nutrition guidelines which are consistent with 42 USC 1758, 1766, 1773, and 1779 and federal regulations and which support the objectives of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity. (42 USC 1758b)</p> <p>The Board believes that all foods and beverages sold to students at district schools, including those available outside the district's reimbursable food services program, should support the health curriculum and promote optimal health. Nutrition standards adopted by the district for foods and beverages provided through student stores, vending machines, or other venues shall meet or exceed state and federal nutrition standards.</p>	<p>Ensures that all foods and beverages sold to students during the school day meet federal nutrition standards and CDE's Competitive Food Beverage nutrition standards.</p>	<p>The district will continue to monitor all competitive foods and beverages to ensure compliance with USDA Smart Snacks standards and the Local Wellness Policy. Documentation will be maintained to support ongoing compliance.</p>
Fundraising	<p>Fundraising efforts will be supportive of healthy eating by complying with all applicable regulations and nutritional standards for competitive foods while also emphasizing the sale of nonfood items. The district encourages non-food fundraising activities to support student health and wellness goals.</p>	<p>For all foods and beverages available on each campus during the school day, the district shall adopt nutrition guidelines which are consistent with 42 USC 1758, 1766, 1773, and 1779 and federal regulations and which support the objectives of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity. (42 USC 1758b)</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall encourage school organizations to use healthy food items or non-food items for fundraising purposes.</p>	<p>The district policy aligns with these requirements by promoting compliance with competitive food standards and emphasizing non-food fundraising activities that support student health and wellness.</p>	<p>The district will continue to ensure all fundraisers involving food and beverages comply with USDA Smart Snacks standards and the Local Wellness Policy. Documentation and monitoring procedures will be maintained to support compliance.</p>
Other	[Add your agencies policy language here.]	No other areas addressed in model policy.	[Add your analysis and conclusions here.]	[Add your next steps here.]

Local School Wellness Policy Requirement: Standards for Foods Given Away

Carter G. Woodson

LSWP-Standards for Foods Given Away Subtopics	[Agency Name] Policy Language	California School Boards Association Model Policy Language	Comparison Analysis and Conclusions	Next Steps
Rewards	All foods and beverages provided to students during the school day, but not sold, shall support the goals of the Local School Wellness Policy and promote student health.	He/she also shall encourage school staff to avoid the use of non-nutritious foods as a reward for students' academic performance, accomplishments, or classroom behavior.	Foods and beverages provided to students during the school day, but not sold, should support the goals of the Local School Wellness Policy and promote student health. The district policy aligns with this requirement.	Foods served during classroom celebrations should meet the federal and state nutrition standards. Celebrations that include food and beverages must occur after the lunch period has ended. School administrators may determine to put further restrictions on celebrations.
Celebrations	All foods and beverages provided to students during the school day, but not sold, shall support the goals of the Local School Wellness Policy and promote student health.	School staff shall encourage parents/guardians or other volunteers to support the district's nutrition education program by considering nutritional quality when selecting any snacks which they may donate for occasional class parties. Class parties or celebrations shall be held after the lunch period when possible.	Foods and beverages provided to students during the school day, but not sold, should support the goals of the Local School Wellness Policy and promote student health. The district policy aligns with this requirement.	Foods served during classroom celebrations should meet the federal and state nutrition standards. Celebrations that include food and beverages must occur after the lunch period has ended. School administrators may determine to put further restrictions on celebrations.
Other				

Local School Wellness Policy Requirement: Food and Beverage Marketing

Carter G. Woodson

[Agency Name] Policy Language	California School Boards Association Model Policy Language	Comparison Analysis and Conclusions	Next Steps
<p>School-based marketing and advertising shall be consistent with the goals of the Local School Wellness Policy and shall support nutritional education and health promotion. The district shall permit the marketing of only those foods and beverages that meet federal Smart Snacks standards under 7 CFR, Section 210.11 and applicable California competitive food requirements. Marketing activities that promote healthy behaviors are encouraged.</p>	<p>To reinforce the district's nutrition education program, the Board prohibits the marketing and advertising of foods and beverages that do not meet nutrition standards for the sale of foods and beverages on campus during the school day. (Education Code 49431.9 7 CFR 210.31)</p>	<p>The district policy aligns with these requirements by restricting marketing to compliant products and promoting activities that support nutrition education and student health.</p>	<p>Any foods and beverages marketed or promoted to students on the school campus during the school day will meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School Nutrition Standards.</p>

Local School Wellness Policy Requirement: Identification of Person in Charge

Carter G. Woodson

[Agency Name] Policy Language	California School Boards Association Model Policy Language	Comparison Analysis and Conclusions	Next Steps
<p>The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for ensuring district-wide compliance with the Local School Wellness Policy. The school principal or designee shall ensure compliance at the school site and report on implementation as required. School food service staff shall ensure compliance with nutrition standards within the food service program and shall report to the Superintendent or designee.</p> <p>The district shall conduct and publish a Triennial Assessment of compliance with the Wellness Policy at least once every three years, in accordance with requirements established by the USDA. The assessment report shall be provided to the Governing Board and made available to the public.</p>	<p>The Superintendent designates the individual(s) identified below as the individual(s) responsible for ensuring that each school site complies with the district's wellness policy. (42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.31)</p>	<p>The district policy aligns with these requirements by clearly identifying responsible individuals at both the district and school site levels and by outlining procedures for conducting and publishing the required Triennial Assessment. .</p>	<p>The district will continue to ensure that designated officials at both the district and school site levels understand their responsibilities for implementing and monitoring the Local School Wellness Policy. Procedures for compliance monitoring will remain in place, and documentation will be maintained as required.</p>

Local School Wellness Policy Requirement: Involvement of School and Community Members

Carter G. Woodson

[Agency Name] Policy Language	California School Boards Association Model Policy Language	Comparison Analysis and Conclusions	Next Steps
<p>The district shall conduct a review of the Local School Wellness Policy at least once every three years to assess compliance, measure progress, and identify areas for improvement. The review shall evaluate nutrition and physical activity policies, the school environment supporting healthy eating and physical activity, and related program elements. The district shall provide opportunities for the public to participate in the development, implementation, and review of the Local School Wellness Policy and shall make the policy and assessment results available to the public.</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall invite feedback on district and school wellness activities from food service personnel, school administrators, the wellness council, parents/guardians, students, teachers, before- and after-school program staff, and/or other appropriate persons.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall encourage parents/guardians, students, food service employees, physical education teachers, school health professionals, Board members, school administrators, and members of the public to participate in the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the district's student wellness policy. (42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.31)</p>	<p>The district remains in compliance with the Local School Wellness Policy requirements and continues to make progress. Feedback and assessment results will be used to guide updates and strengthen wellness efforts over the next three years.</p>	<p>The district will use the assessment results and stakeholder feedback to update the wellness policy as needed and continue monitoring implementation and compliance.</p>

Local School Wellness Policy Requirement: Implementation Plan

Carter G. Woodson

[Agency Name] Policy Language	California School Boards Association Model Policy Language	Comparison Analysis and Conclusions	Next Steps
<p>The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for ensuring district-wide compliance with the Local School Wellness Policy. The school principal or designee shall ensure compliance at the school site and report on implementation as required. School food service staff shall ensure compliance with nutrition standards within the food service program and shall report to the Superintendent or designee.</p> <p>The district shall conduct and publish a Triennial Assessment of compliance with the Wellness Policy at least once every three years, in accordance with requirements established by the USDA. The assessment report shall be provided to the Governing Board and made available to the public.</p>	<p>The Board and the Superintendent or designee shall establish indicators that will be used to measure the implementation and effectiveness of the district activities related to student wellness. Such indicators may include, but are not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Descriptions of the district's nutrition education, physical education, and health education curricula and the extent to which they align with state academic content standards and legal requirements 2. An analysis of the nutritional content of school meals and snacks served in all district programs, based on a sample of menus and production records 3. Student participation rates in all school meal and/or snack programs, including the number of students enrolled in the free and reduced-price meals program compared to the number of students eligible for that program 4. Extent to which foods and beverages sold on campus outside the food services program, such as through vending machines, student stores, or fundraisers, comply with nutrition standards 5. Extent to which other foods and beverages that are available on campus during the school day, such as foods and beverages for classroom parties, school celebrations, and rewards/incentives, comply with nutrition standards 6. Results of the state's physical fitness test at applicable grade levels 7. Number of minutes of physical education offered at each grade span, and the estimated percentage of class time spent in moderate to vigorous physical activity 8. A description of district efforts to provide additional opportunities for physical activity outside of the physical education program 9. A description of other districtwide or school-based wellness activities offered, including the number of sites and/or students participating, as appropriate <p>As feasible, the assessment report may include a comparison of results across multiple years, a comparison of district data with county, statewide, or national data, and/or a comparison of wellness data with other student outcomes such as academic indicators or student discipline rates.</p>	<p>The district compared current practices with the previous review and determined that the Local School Wellness Policy is being implemented in compliance with federal and state requirements. The district will use the results of this assessment to guide continued improvement and support wellness goals.</p>	<p>The district will use the assessment results to guide updates as needed, continue monitoring compliance, and maintain public reporting of the wellness policy and findings.</p>

Local School Wellness Policy Requirement: Annual Update

[Enter your agency name here.]

[Enter the date here.]

[Agency Name] Policy Language	California School Boards Association Model Policy Language	Comparison Analysis and Conclusions	Next Steps
[Add your agencies policy language here.]	The Superintendent or designee shall inform the public about the content and implementation of the district's wellness policy and shall make the policy, and any updates to the policy, available the public on an annual basis. He/she shall also inform the public of the district's progress towards meeting the goals of the wellness policy, including the availability of the triennial district assessment. (Education Code 49432; 42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.31)	[Add your analysis and conclusions here.]	[Add your next steps here.]

Local School Wellness Policy Requirement: Triennial Assessment

Carter G. Woodson

[Agency Name] Policy Language	California School Boards Association Model Policy Language	Comparison Analysis and Conclusions	Next Steps
	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall assess the implementation and effectiveness of this policy at least once every three years. (42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.31)</p> <p>The assessment shall include the extent to which district schools are in compliance with this policy, the extent to which this policy compares to model wellness policies available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and a description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy. (42 USC 1758b)</p> <p>In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall prepare and maintain the proper documentation and records needed for the administrative review of the district's wellness policy conducted by the California Department of Education (CDE) every three years.</p> <p>The assessment results of both the district and state evaluations shall be submitted to the Board for the purposes of evaluating policy and practice, recognizing accomplishments, and making policy adjustments as needed to focus district resources and efforts on actions that are most likely to make a positive impact on student health and achievement.</p> <p>[The Superintendent] shall also inform the public of the district's progress towards meeting the goals of the wellness policy, including the availability of the triennial district assessment. (Education Code 49432; 42 USC 1758b; 7 CFR 210.31)</p>	<p>The district compared current wellness policy implementation with the previous assessment and determined that the policy continues to be implemented in compliance with federal and state requirements. The district will use the results of this review to support ongoing monitoring and improvement efforts.</p>	<p>The district will continue monitoring policy implementation, report results to the Board and public, and use assessment findings to make updates as needed to support ongoing compliance and improvement.</p>