

- c. In the late spring, seventh grade pre-algebra students will be given an approved proficiency or advanced prognosis test for Algebra. Seventh graders who score at least 70 will be considered for placement in eighth grade Algebra I. Other criteria to be considered include, but are not limited to, student grades, standardized test scores and teacher recommendations. Students selected will be placed conditionally in eighth grade Algebra I. Students who are not progressing satisfactorily will be moved into the regular eighth grade mathematics program. Students who are reassigned must take Algebra I in the ninth grade
- d. At the beginning of eighth grade, a conference will be held with the teacher, counselor, students, and parents. It will be explained to parents that students who do not earn an “85” will be denied Algebra I Honors graduation credit. At the end of the eighth grade, students who have earned an “85” in Algebra I Honors will have the opportunity to waive the credit and take it again in the ninth grade at the high school. However, students and parents may opt to accept the “85” graduation credit as part of the high school GPA. If accepted, the student must enroll in Geometry in the ninth grade. Students who waive the “85” credit will be enrolled in Algebra I in the ninth grade

7.15 School Wellness

The Board is committed to providing school environments that promote and protect children's health, well-being, and ability to learn by supporting healthy eating and physical activity. Therefore, it is the plan of the Clarke County School District that:

- a. The Board will engage students, parents, teachers, food service professionals, health professionals, and other interested community members in developing, implementing, monitoring, and reviewing district-wide nutrition and physical activity policies.
- b. All students in grades K-12 will have opportunities, support, and encouragement to be physically active on a regular basis.
- c. Foods and beverages sold or served at school will meet the nutrition recommendations of the *U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans* and the restrictions as implemented by the Alabama State Board of Education.
- d. Qualified child nutrition professionals 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.
- e. All schools in our district, the School Breakfast Program, National School Lunch Program, after-school snacks, and Summer Food Service Program/Seamless Summer Option will participate, if available, in the federal school meals programs.
- f. Schools will provide nutrition education 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.

7.15.1 Wellness committee

- a. The Board will form a committee consisting of:
 1. Superintendent or Designee
 2. Child Nutrition Director (cannot chair the committee)
 3. (2) Principals
 4. (1) School Nurse
 5. (3) Teachers to include at least (1) Physical Education Teacher
 6. (1) CNP Manager
 7. (2) Student Representatives, (1) from each high school
 8. At least (1) Parent Representative

- b. The committee will meet annually during the month of December to:
 1. Update the Board Policy
 2. Assess the effectiveness of the policy
 3. Offer suggestions to increase the effectiveness of the policy

7.15.2 Meal Service

- a. During each school day the food service program shall offer breakfast and lunch under the nutritional guidelines of the USDA's National School Lunch and Breakfast Program. Additionally, the food service program shall offer snacks based on the nutrient guidelines in the USDA's After School At-Risk Snack Program to those students in after-school education or enrichment programs. Each school shall encourage all students to participate in these meal opportunities. In particular, the school shall make efforts to ensure that families are aware of the Community Eligibility Provision and need-based programs for free or reduced-price meals and that eligible families are encouraged to apply.

- b. During the summer, the Clarke County Board of Education may participate in the Summer Food Service Program or Seamless Summer Program in an effort to meet students' nutritional needs when school is not in session. The Board will inform the students and the general public about the availability of sites that participate in these programs.

- c. Students and staff shall have adequate space to eat meals in pleasant surroundings and shall have adequate time to eat. Students will be encouraged to eat lunch at school in the cafeteria. After being seated with their meal, students must have a minimum of 15-20 minutes to consume their meal. Safe drinking water and convenient access to facilities for hand washing and oral hygiene must be available during all meal periods.

- d. Rewards and incentives for academic performance should be given careful consideration as to the messages they send to students receiving them. If food is included in recognition of academic performance, it should be used in the general celebration of the achievement not as the reward.

- e. Food shall not be withheld from students as punishment.

7.15.3 Nutrition Education

- a. Nutrition education topics shall be integrated within the sequential, comprehensive health education program taught at every grade level, pre-kindergarten through twelfth. The nutrition education program shall focus on students' eating behaviors, be based on theories and methods proven effective by published research, and be consistent with the state's/district's health education standards/guidelines/framework. Nutrition education shall be designed to help students learn:
 1. Nutritional knowledge, including but not limited to the benefits of healthy eating, essential nutrients, nutritional deficiencies, principles of healthy weight management, the use and misuse of dietary supplements and safe food preparations, handling and storage;
 2. Nutrition-related skills, including but not limited to planning a healthy meal, understanding and using food labels, and critically evaluating nutrition information, misinformation, and commercial food advertising; and
 3. How to assess one's personal eating habits, set goals for improvement, and achieve those goals.
 4. Nutrition education instructional activities shall stress the appealing aspects of healthy eating and be participatory, developmentally appropriate, and enjoyable. The program shall engage families as partners in their children's education.
- b. Staff as Role Models. School staffs are encouraged to model healthy eating behaviors. Schools should offer wellness programs that include personalized instruction about healthy eating and physical activity.

7.15.4 Physical Activity

- a. Schools are encouraged to integrate physical activity across curricula and throughout the school day.
- b. Physical education courses will be the environment where students learn, practice, and are assessed on developmentally appropriate motor skills, social skills, and knowledge.
- c. Physical activity participation will take into consideration the "balancing equation" of food intake and physical activity.
- d. Physical education includes the instruction of individual activities as well as competitive and non-competitive team sports to encourage life-long physical activity.
- e. The school provides a physical and social environment that encourages safe and enjoyable activity for all students, including those who are not athletically gifted.
- f. Schools will follow Alabama Course of Study for Physical Education requirements.

7.15.5 Community/Family Involvement

- a. Information will be provided to families to help them incorporate physical activity into their student's lives.

- b. Schools are encouraged to develop relationships with community programs and to allow those programs to use the school's physical activity facilities outside of the normal school day with proper authorization.
- c. Schools shall encourage families and community members to institute programs that support physical activity.

7.15.6 Nutrition Guidelines for all Foods on Campus

a. The School Environment

- 1. Food providers will be sensitive to the school environment in displaying their logos and trademarks on school grounds.
- 2. Advertising messages are consistent with and reinforce the objectives of the education and nutrition environment goals of the school.
- 3. Advertising of foods or beverages in the areas accessible to students during meal times must be consistent with established nutrition environment standards.
- 4. Food items and beverages sold or served after a normal school day do not have to meet the Alabama State Department of Education Nutrition Policies. School Day means, for the purpose of competitive food standards implementation, the period from the midnight before, to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day.

b. Nutritious Food Choices

- 1. Every school shall ensure that all foods sold in vending machines, school stores, and cafeterias are in compliance with the USDA Smart Snacks in Schools standards. Healthy products must be priced at a level that encourages students to purchase them.
- 2. Foods and beverages sold or served during a normal school day shall meet nutritional standards and other guidelines set by the current Alabama Implementation of USDA Smart Snacks in School and Fundraising Activities Policy effective July 1, 2015. Link to Alabama Implementation of USDA Smart Snacks in School and Fundraising Activities: <http://www.alsde.edu/sec/cnp/Regulations/Smart%20Snack%20and%20Fundraiser%20Guidance%20and%20Implementation.pdf#search=smart%20snack>
- 3. Food items in competition with the CNP scheduled meal time may not be sold or provided free of charge to students. These include but are not limited to food items purchased through school organizations and those donated from outside sources.
- 4. Classroom snacks feature healthy choices.

c. Vending Machines

- 1. The guidelines for foods sold in vending machines shall meet nutritional standards and other guidelines set by the Alabama State Department of Education Nutrition Policies. Foods and beverages sold in vending machines must be in compliance with the USDA Smart Snacks in Schools

standards. Vending machines may not be used during school breakfast and lunch periods.

2. Beverage contracts should include those vendors that will offer water, non-carbonated calorie-free flavored water, fruit juices with 100% fruit juice, sports drinks, 1% fat or skim milk. The advertisement on vending machines shall only display healthy choices.
3. Nutrition information for products sold at vending machines and school stores is readily available.
4. Families, teachers, students and school officials are engaged in choosing the competitive food selections for their local schools.

d. Fundraisers

1. All fund-raising activities shall comply with the Alabama Implementation USDA Smart Snacks in School and Fundraising Activities Policy. Schools should be encouraged to sell healthy foods and non-food items, to demonstrate publicly the school's commitment to promoting healthy behaviors among students, families and the communities, while helping schools meet their financial needs.
2. Promotional activities will be limited to programs that are requested by school officials to support teaching and learning. All promotional activities in school will be connected to activities that encourage physical activity, academic achievement or positive youth development and are in compliance with local guidelines.
3. Nutrition education is incorporated during classroom snack times, not just during meals. Foods and beverages sold as fundraisers include healthy choices and provide age appropriate selections for elementary schools, middle schools and high schools.

e. Exempt Fundraiser Definition

1. An exempt food fundraiser is defined as the sale of food items that do not meet the USDA Smart Snacks in School standards and are sold during the school day. A school may sponsor up to and not to exceed 30 exempt fundraisers per year, for no more than one (1) day each in length. Exempt fundraiser food is prohibited from being sold as a la carte item, in vending machines or in school stores, or before school on school campus.
2. Food sold as part of exempt fundraisers may not be sold one (1) hour before or after meal periods. Example: If lunch ends at 12:30 p.m. then the fundraiser could not start until 1:30 p.m.
3. Exempt Food Fundraiser Procedure:
 - a. School Principal
 - i. Alabama's Implementation of USDA Smart Snacks in School and Exempt Fundraisers Form.
 - ii. Complete, approve, and sign form
 - iii. Provide a copy to CNP Director
 - iv. Provide documentation of approval upon request by Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) for audit review.

- b. Superintendent
 - i. Attestation of Compliance with Alabama Implementation of USDA Smart Snacks in School and Fundraising Activities.
 - ii. Complete and sign the attestation document
 - iii. Provide to CNP Directors to support the annual online application renewal.
 - c. Child Nutrition Director
 - i. Place a copy of the Alabama's Implementation of USDA Smart Snacks in School and Exempt Fundraiser Form (signed by the school principal) in the wellness plan file.
 - ii. Provide documentation of approval upon request by ALSDE.
4. Semi-annual due dates are: July 1 and January 1 of each school year. The completed Alabama's Implementation of USDA Smart Snacks in School and Exempt Fundraisers Form is required to be signed and on file as described above before exempt food fundraisers commence.

7.15.7 Monitoring and Policy Review

- a. District: The superintendent or designee will ensure compliance with established district-wide nutrition and physical activity wellness policies.
- b. School: The principal or designee at each school will ensure compliance with nutrition and physical activity policies in his/her school and will report on the school's compliance to the superintendent or designee on an annual basis.
- c. Food Service: The food service staff at each school will ensure compliance with nutrition policies within the school food service areas. The Child Nutrition Director will observe and document compliance during an on-site visit to each school at least once a year.

7.16 Selection of Instructional Materials and Materials for the School Libraries

The Superintendent is authorized to develop criteria for approval by the Board for selection of materials (other than textbooks) that are used in conjunction with student instruction and for circulation in school libraries. The Superintendent is further authorized to develop a procedure for review of objections to instructional and library materials.