

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE **EDUCATION ACTIVITY 4040 NORTH FAIRFAX DRIVE**

ARLINGTON, VA 22203-1635

Logistics

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY REGULATION

SUBJECT: Local Wellness Policy Requirement for DoDEA Schools Participating in the Student Meal Program

References: (a) Section 204 of Public Law 108-265, "Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004," June 30, 2004

- (b) Title 7, Code of Federal Regulation, Part 210, "National School Lunch Program," current edition
- (c) DoD Directive 1015.5, "DoD Student Meal Program," October 11, 1983

1. PURPOSE

This Regulation establishes a local wellness policy requirement for the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) under the authority of references (a) and (b).

2. APPLICABILITY

This Regulation applies to Office of the Director, Department of Defense Education Activity; the Director, Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools, and Department of Defense Dependent Schools, Cuba (DDESS/DoDDS-Cuba); the Director, Department of Defense Dependent Schools, Europe (DoDDS-E); the Director, Department of Defense Dependent Schools, Pacific, and Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools, Guam (DoDDS-P/DDESS-Guam); and all DoDEA Districts Superintendents, School Principals, Teachers, and Support Staff.

3. <u>DEFINITIONS</u>

<u>Local Wellness Policy</u>. A policy created by school districts that promotes the health of students and addresses the growing problem of childhood obesity. It is required of each school district participating in the National School Lunch Program and/or the School Breakfast Program.

4. POLICY

It is DoDEA policy that:

- 4.1. All districts participating in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Student Meal Program under reference (c) must establish a local wellness policy for each of their participating schools. This requirement is mandated by Section 204 of Pub. L. No. 108-265 (2004)(reference (a)), and is currently in effect.
 - 4.2. The wellness policy, at a minimum, shall include the following:
- 4.2.1. Goals for nutrition education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that are designed to promote student wellness in a manner acceptable to the district.
- 4.2.2. Nutrition guidelines¹ selected by the district for all foods available during the school day on each school campus under its jurisdiction in order to promote student health and reduce childhood obesity.
- 4.2.3. The guidelines applicable to reimbursable school meals shall not be less restrictive than regulations and guidance issued by the Secretary of Agriculture.
- 4.2.4. A plan for measuring implementation of the local wellness policy, including designation of one or more persons within the district or at each school responsible for ensuring that the school meets the local wellness policy.
- 4.2.5. Involve parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, military services, school administrators, and the public in the development of the school wellness policy.
- 4.3. In order to establish the most effective wellness policy it is recommended that districts create a wellness committee (or utilizes an existing group or committee that shares the vision of promoting student nutrition and physical activity) that includes representatives from the community and the school to provide varying perspectives. The committee should include:
 - 4.3.1. Parents,
 - 4.3.2. Students,
 - 4.3.3. School food authority representatives,
 - 4.3.4. Health care personnel (e.g., the school nurse or a local dietitian), and
 - 4.3.5. Teachers.

¹ http://www.cnpp.usda.gov/DietaryGuidelines.htm

4.4. DoDDS districts must coordinate plans with those that provide food and physical activity support in the community to ensure success. This might also include those that support the School Meal Program (i.e., the local school food authority, such as: Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES), Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM), or the Marines), vending services, school stores, fundraising events at school (e.g., bake sales, concessions at school, candy sales), and nutrition/fitness education.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 5.1. The <u>Director</u>, <u>Department of Defense Education Activity</u>, shall exercise overall responsibility for the implementation of this Regulation.
- 5.2. The <u>Director</u>, <u>Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools and Department of Defense Dependent Schools</u>, <u>Cuba</u>; the <u>Director</u>, <u>Department of Defense Dependent Schools</u>, <u>Europe</u>; the <u>Director</u>, <u>Department of Defense Dependent Schools</u>, <u>Pacific</u>, and <u>Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools</u>, <u>Guam</u>, shall, within their respective area of responsibility:
- 5.2.1. Ensure that guidelines and procedures developed pursuant to this Regulation are disseminated and implemented in each district.
 - 5.2.2. Provide resources to support local wellness policies.
- 5.2.3. Ensure that each district follows established guidelines, especially with respect to establishing local wellness policies.
- 5.3. The <u>DoDEA District Superintendents</u>, shall, within their respective area of responsibility:
- 5.3.1. Ensure that each district has established a local wellness policy consistent with this Regulation.
- 5.3.2. Ensure that each district follows established guidelines, especially with respect to the local wellness policy.

6. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Regulation is effective immediately.

Jah Watj-Joseph D. Tafoya

Director