Local Wellness Policy Self-Assessment: Nutrition Services and Guidelines for Competitive Foods

(DRAFT)

Directions: The local wellness policy (LWP) team should complete this self-assessment with support from other school and district stakeholders (e.g., principals, health educators, etc.). The LWP team should identify who in the school system may best answer the different implementation questions (found in Column C), and gather data from these people through surveys, interviews, etc.

The LWP team by policy area (row) will be asked to assess (in Column B) how Supervisory Union/District (SU/SD) LWP policy language is the same or similar to the model policy language found in Column A, which comes directly from [Vermont Agency of Education Model Local Wellness Policy](https://education.vermont.gov/document/model-local-wellness-policy). The LWP team should then assess (in Column C) if each practice affiliated with that policy goal area is implemented across all SU/SD schools (YES), not implemented (NO), or not fully implemented (IN PROCESS). A LWP team may choose to go through this self-assessment by section, row, or column (e.g., assess all SU/SD policies first).

It is also assumed that many SU/SDs will have strong policies, intentional alignment between policies and practices, and may be interested in establishing additional policy and implementation goals that go beyond federal and state requirements. These additional, and not required, best policies/practices are marked in the template as optional where relevant. If a SU/SD has Nutrition Services policy goals not related to those found in Column A, that go beyond model policies, these additional policy goals should be captured in added rows at the end of this template. The LWP team will need to also assess if practices associated with these policy goals- identified by the LWP team in the additional row- are implemented in the SU/SD (see [Support and Resources for Nutrition Services](https://education.vermont.gov/documents/supports-and-resources-for-nutrition-services-vermont-local-wellness-policy-guide), [Support and Resources for the Evaluation of Nutrition Services](https://education.vermont.gov/documents/supports-and-resources-for-evaluation-of-nutrition-services-vermont-local-wellness-policy-guide), and [Support and Resources for Competitive Foods and Beverages](https://education.vermont.gov/documents/supports-and-resources-for-competitive-food-programs-vermont-local-wellness-policy-guide)).

Nutrition Services and Guidelines for Competitive Foods

Supervisory Union/District: Date:

Collaborative Stakeholders Represented (List LWP Team Members):

| 1. MODEL POLICY LANGUAGE   ([Vermont Agency of Education Model Local Wellness Policy](https://education.vermont.gov/document/model-local-wellness-policy)) | 1. POLICY LANGUAGE OR SIMILAR INCLUDED IN LWP | 1. POLICY REQUIREMENTS AND OPTIONAL RESEARCH SUPPORTED BEST PRACTICES |
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| 5. The district shall ensure that guidelines for reimbursable school meals are not less restrictive than regulations and guidance issued by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to sections (a) and (b) of section 9A(a) and (b) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act as those regulations and guidance apply to schools. | YES:  NO: | SU/SD guidelines for reimbursable school meals are not less restrictive than regulations and guidance issued by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to sections (a) and (b) of section 9A(a) and (b) of the [Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act](https://www.fns.usda.gov/nsla) as those regulations and guidance apply to schools.  YES: NO: IN PROCESS: |
| 6. The district shall provide adequate space for eating and serving school meals. | YES:  NO: | Adequate space for eating and serving school meals is provided in SU/SD schools.  YES: NO: IN PROCESS: |
| 7. The district shall establish meal periods that provide adequate time to eat and are scheduled at appropriate hours. | YES:  NO: | Meal periods provide adequate time to eat (e.g., school lunch periods are longer than 20 minutes) ([7 CFR 210.10](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/subtitle-B/chapter-II/subchapter-A/part-210/subpart-C/section-210.10)-Requirements for lunch periods).  YES: NO: IN PROCESS  Lunch occurs between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. ([7 CFR 210.10](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/subtitle-B/chapter-II/subchapter-A/part-210/subpart-C/section-210.10)-Requirements for lunch periods).  YES: NO: IN PROCESS |
| 8. The district shall provide a clean and safe meal environment for students. | YES:  NO: | Meal environment in SU/SD schools is clean ([7 CFR 210.13](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/subtitle-B/chapter-II/subchapter-A/part-210/subpart-C/section-210.13), [Vermont Food Code](https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2016/12/REG_food-service-establishments.pdf)).  YES: NO: IN PROCESS:  Strategies/procedures are in place to keep the meal environment safe for all students and respond to student behavior needs in food service areas (see [16 VSA 1161a](https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/16/025/01161a) and [16 VSA 1481](https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/16/033/01481)).  YES: NO: IN PROCESS: |
| 9. Prohibit the use of food in District schools as a reward or punishment. | YES:  NO: | Food is not used as a reward in SU/SD schools.  YES: NO: IN PROCESS:  Food is not used as a punishment (either the removal, forced choice, etc.) in SU/SD schools.  YES: NO: IN PROCESS: |
| 10. Provide training opportunities, as appropriate for food service and other staff members, in areas of nutrition and wellness. | YES:  NO: | Annual training for food and nutrition service staff is in accordance with USDA Professional Standards training requirements (see [Professional Standards for School Nutrition Program Professionals](https://fns-prod.azureedge.us/sites/default/files/resource-files/Professional_Standards_Flyer.pdf)).  YES: NO: IN PROCESS:  Food and nutrition services staff receive annual training on civil rights in child nutrition *programs (NOTE:These training hours can be applied to federal training hour requirements)* ([Civil Rights Requirements of the Federal Child Nutrition Programs](https://education.vermont.gov/student-support/nutrition#:~:text=The%20Agency%20of%20Education%20Child,summer%20program%20sites%20and%20adult)).  YES: NO: IN PROCESS: |
| 11. Make free potable water available to children in meal service areas (for schools participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast program). | YES:  NO: | Free potable water available to children in meal service areas ([7 CFR 210.10](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/subtitle-B/chapter-II/subchapter-A/part-210/subpart-C/section-210.10)- Requirements for lunch).  YES: NO: IN PROCESS:  (OPTIONAL) Free potable water available to children at filling stations found throughout school buildings.  YES: NO: IN PROCESS: |
| 12. Ensure that nutrition services will reference USDA geographic preference rules and seasonal and local agricultural information when planning school meal menus, to the extent practicable. | YES:  NO: | Nutrition services reference [USDA geographic preference rules](https://www.fns.usda.gov/f2s/geographic-preference) and seasonal and local agricultural information when planning school meal menus.  YES: NO: IN PROCESS:  (OPTIONAL) Local food purchasing percentage of at least 15% ([See Local Foods Incentive Program Overview](https://aoeknowledge.my.vermont.gov/s/knowledge-article?c__resource=All%20Resources&c__recordId=Ycx7qwK%252Fbjzus7Xx%252B5Ik65CVr7ka9HuHdYFpZ20ZGzsTrke2hqEDe3O7nF%252FLS8g4&c__recordType=Articles&c__parentId=sajkNGfPFnDQk80KDLK6ZW53bj5v9OT6XFsY0k1bAaWebp1%252FOPkqG2skP%252BsyQ923&c__calledFromHubPage&c__calledFromTopicPage=true&c__hubTitle&c__topicTitle=Local%20Foods)).  YES: NO: IN PROCESS: |
| (OPTIONAL) Food provided in school honors and elevates the different cultures in the surrounding community. | YES:  NO: | SU/SDs promote activities to involve students and parents in the school lunch program ([7 CFR 210.12](https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/subtitle-B/chapter-II/subchapter-A/part-210/subpart-C/section-210.12)).  (OPTIONAL) Taste tests of foods from different cultures made available to students in food service.  YES: NO: IN PROCESS: |
| *Additional Policy Goal in Nutrition Services* | *Policy Language:* | *Evidence of Implementation of Policy Goal:* |

# Nutrition Guidelines

Directions: For this section, in Column C, the LEA needs to identify if in compliance with standards set forth in LEA LWP.

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| 1. MODEL POLICY LANGUAGE | 1. POLICY LANGUAGE OR SIMILAR INCLUDED IN LWP | 1. IN COMPLIANCE WITH GUIDELINES/ STANDARDS |
| 13. The National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs will meet the requirements provided in 7 CFR 210 and 7 CFR 220 (National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Guidelines. | YES:  NO: | YES:  NO:  IN PROCESS: |
| 14. All foods and beverages outside the reimbursable school meal programs that are sold to students on the school campus during the school day will meet the USDA Smart Snacks nutrition standards. | YES:  NO: | YES:  NO:  IN PROCESS: |
| 15. District fundraisers that occur during the school day will meet the USDA Smart Snack nutrition standards. | YES:  NO: | YES:  NO:  IN PROCESS: |
| 16. The District is required to establish nutrition guidelines for all other foods provided, but not sold to students during the school day. Foods provided but not sold may include food that is part of a classroom celebration or provided by parents or community organizations free of charge. [Districts should choose either 1 or 2 below or write their own guidelines.]  (1) It is the policy of the District that, when feasible, food provided but not sold should be limited to those foods that improve the diet and health of students, help mitigate childhood obesity, and model healthy choices.  (2) Food provided but not sold will, at minimum, comply with the Smart Snacks Standards. | YES, 1:  YES, 2:  NO POLICY:  OWN GUIDELINES: | YES:  NO:  IN PROCESS: |
| *If response to question 16 is “Own Guidelines,” fill in those guidelines in the space provided below:* | *No data* | *No data* |