Montana Office of Public Instruction
School Nutrition Programs

Local School Wellness Policy: Triennial Assessment Template (created July 2026)

Local School Wellness Policy & Triennial Assessment General Information 7 CFR 210.31(a)

Each local educational agency (LEA) must establish a local school wellness policy for all schools participating in the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program under the jurisdiction of the local educational agency. The local school wellness policy (SWP) is a written plan that includes methods to promote student wellness, prevent and reduce childhood obesity, and provide assurance that school meals and other food and beverages sold and otherwise made available on the school campus during the school day are consistent with applicable minimum Federal standards.

An assessment of your school wellness policy must be conducted a minimum of once every three years (triennial) per United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations 7 CFR 210.31(e)(2).

Purpose

The template below is a way to summarize the information gathered during your assessment. It includes the following requirements of the assessment:

1) Designate one or more local educational agency officials or school officials to ensure that each participating school complies with the local school wellness policy;
2) At least once every three years, assess schools' compliance with the local school wellness policy, and make assessment results available to the public. The assessment must measure the implementation of the local school wellness policy, and include:
    i. The extent to which schools under the jurisdiction of the local educational agency are in compliance with the local school wellness policy;
    ii. The extent to which the local educational agency's local school wellness policy compares to model local school wellness policies; and
    iii. A description of the progress made in attaining the goals of the local school wellness policy.

Results

The copy of the assessment, as well as the current wellness policy, must be made available to the public. How these documents are shared publicly is the decision of the LEA. Many LEAs choose to post the results on their district website.

Recordkeeping

Keep a copy of the most recent triennial assessment on file for at least three full school years plus the current year. MT OPI will assess compliance with the wellness policy requirements as a part of the general areas of the School Nutrition Programs Administrative Review.

Resources

Smart Snacks in School Guide - Nutrition guidelines for food & beverages sold during the school day.
National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Nutrition Standards - Federal Regulations
School Breakfast Program (SBP) Nutrition Standards - Federal Regulations
Local School Wellness Policies Requirements & Guidance – USDA resource

Triennial Assessment of the Local School Wellness Policy

Section 1. General information:

School District (or sponsor) Name:
Zurich Elementary District 17

Month and year of previous triennial assessment:
7/6/22

Date of last wellness policy revision:
7/6/22

Website address for the wellness policy and/or information on how the public can access a copy:
zurichelementary17.org

Name(s) & position(s) of staff completing this Triennial Assessment of the School Wellness Policy:
Kendall Harwood - County Superintendent
Elizabeth Carter - District Clerk

School Wellness Policies are to Include:

	Meeting Requirement	Not Meeting Requirement
Identifying a Wellness Coordinator 7 CFR 210.31(c)(4): In the SWP, the LEA has identified at least one school official to establish the local school wellness policy, ensure that each participating school complies with the local SWP, and conducts the triennial assessment of the SWP. Name or position of person responsible: Kendall Harwood, County Superintendent	☑	☐
Stakeholder Participation/Public Involvement 7 CFR 210.31(d): In the SWP, the LEA allows parents, students, representatives of the school food authority, teachers of physical education, school health professionals, the school board, school administrators, and the general public to participate in the development, implementation, evaluation and update of the local school wellness policy. Inform the public about the content and implementation of the local school wellness policy, and make the policy and any updates to the policy available to the public on an annual basis.	☑	☐
Communication: Annually inform and update parents, students, staff, and the community about the content and implementation of the wellness policy and provide a way for additional stakeholders to be able to participate. List where/how the school wellness policy is made available to your stakeholders. the school website: zurichelementary17.org	☑	☐
Assessment: In the SWP, language is included to conduct the Triennial Assessment of the SWP (every three years) and make results available to the public. How/where are the results made available to the public? Provide link to website/resource or explain: As of 2026, the results are available on the website: zurichelementary17.org	☑	☐

Section 2. Compliance with the Wellness Policy and Progress Towards Goals

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

- Specific goals for:
  - ☐ Nutrition promotion
  - ☐ Nutrition education
  - ☐ Physical activity
  - ☐ Other school-based activities that promote student wellness.
- Standards and nutrition guidelines for all foods and beverages ***sold*** to students on the school campus during the school day that are consistent with federal regulations for school meal nutrition standards, and the Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards.
- Standards for all foods and beverages provided but ***not sold*** to students during the school day (e.g., classroom parties, classroom snacks brought by parents, or other foods given as incentives).
- 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 evaluation plan.

Using the tables below, review the language that is currently written in the school wellness policy in relation to each topic area. Next, assess and discuss whether the schools are meeting the requirement or goal, partially meeting, or not meeting the requirement or goal. Finally, indicate the progress made for each goal and next steps that have been identified.

School Wellness Policies are to include, and LEA to assess compliance in meeting the following:

USDA School Meal standards & nutrition guidelines 7 CFR 210.31(c)(3)(i), 7 CFR 210.10, & 7 CFR 220.8**:**	**Yes**	**No**
Does the local SWP include language that school meals will meet the USDA National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) meal pattern standards & nutrition guidelines?	☑	☐
Indicate the language that is currently written in the school wellness policy in relation to this topic: The District shall ensure that reimbursalbe school meals and snacks meet the program requirements and nutrition standards found in federal regulations including but not limited to Smart Snacks in School Nutrition Standards.		
Healthier Generation example policy language: All schools within the district will participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) and will provide meals that meet the nutrition standards for school meals. In addition: • school meals will be accessible to all students, and the district will accommodate special dietary needs and food allergies as required by federal regulations • offer a variety of foods and beverages that are appealing and attractive to children • provide adequate time to eat school meals, meaning that students will be allowed at least 10 minutes to eat breakfast and at least 20 minutes to eat lunch, counting from the time they have received their meal and are seated.		

Schools must meet the USDA meal pattern & nutrition standard.	**Meeting Requirement**	**Meeting Partially**	**Not Meeting Requirement**
Is your School Nutrition Program meeting this requirement?	☑	☐	☐
Describe progress and next steps to correct any issues:			

Food & Beverage Marketing 7 CFR 210.31(c)(3)(iii)**:** Does the local SWP include language that permits/allows marketing on the school campus during the school day of only those foods and beverages that meet the competitive food/beverage nutrition standards (Smart Snacks)?	**Yes**	**No**
	☑	☐

Indicate the language that is currently written in the school wellness policy in relation to this topic:

The district shall encourage students to make nutritious food choices through accessibility, advertising & marketing efforts of healthful foods.The District shall monitor all food and beverages sold or served to students during the normal school day, including those available outside the federally regulated child nutrition programs.

Healthier Generation: Health and wellness efforts are weakened when students are subjected to advertising on district property that promotes unhealthy foods and beverages. Recommended SWP language: All foods and beverages marketed to students on the school campus during the school day will meet or exceed Smart Snacks. This includes the marketing of products on: • the exterior of vending machines • posters, flyers, menu boards, coolers, trash cans and other foodservice equipment for example.

Is every district school meeting this requirement?	**Meeting Requirement**	**Meeting Partially**	**Not Meeting Requirement**
	☑	☐	☐

Describe progress and next steps to correct any issues:

Nutritional Standards for non-sold foods and beverages at each school site 7 CFR 210.31(c)(2)**:** Does the local SWP has set nutritional guidelines for foods and beverages not sold but offered or made available on the school campus during the school day? This includes foods and beverages offered during celebrations and parties, for classroom snacks and as rewards and incentives.	**Yes**	**No**
	☑	☐

Indicate the language that is currently written in the school wellness policy in relation to this topic:

The district shall encourage students to make nutritious food choices through accessibility, advertising & marketing efforts of healthful foods.The District shall monitor all food and beverages sold or served to students during the normal school day, including those available outside the federally regulated child nutrition programs (i.e., a la carte, vending, student stores, classroom rewards, fundraising efforts)

Healthier Generation recommends that all foods and beverages provided to students meet Smart Snack Guidelines to ensure consistency between foods offered and sold. Healthier Generation example policy language: The district requires that all foods and beverages served and offered on the school campus outside of the school meal programs during the school day will, at a minimum, meet Smart Snacks. The district will make available: • A list of healthy and non-food party ideas • A list of foods and beverages that meet Smart Snacks • A list of healthy and non-food rewards.

Are all schools in the district meeting the nutritional standards for all foods and beverages available (not sold)?	**Meeting Requirement**	**Meeting Partially**	**Not Meeting Requirement**
	☑	☐	☐

Describe progress and next steps to correct any issues:

Standards & Nutritional Guidelines for all foods and beverages sold on campus during the school day 7 CFR 210.11:	**Yes**	**No**
• Does the local SWP have set nutritional guidelines for foods and beverages sold on the school campus during the school day that meet Smart Snack Guidelines and promote student health and reduce childhood obesity 7 CFR 210.31(c)(3)(iv)?	☐	☐

Indicate the language that is currently written in the school wellness policy in relation to this topic:

NA

Healthier Generation example policy language: The district will ensure that all foods and beverages sold to students on the school campus during the school day support healthy eating, including those provided outside of the school meal programs. All foods and beverages sold outside of the school meal programs, during the school day will, at a minimum, meet Smart Snacks. These standards will apply in all locations and through all services where foods and beverages are sold, which may include but are not limited to à la carte, vending machines, school stores and snack or food carts, as well as any food-based fundraising meant for consumption during the school day.

Only food and beverages that meet Smart Snack Guidelines are allowed to be sold during the school day. Are all schools in the district in compliance?	**Meeting Requirement**	**Meeting Partially**	**Not Meeting Requirement**
	☐	☐	☐

Vending Machines: Are all vending machine food & beverage options in compliance with Smart Snacks Guidelines for each grade group they're accessible to?

NA

School Stores: Are all school store food & beverage items available for sale during the school day in compliance with Smart Snacks Guidelines for each grade group?

NA

Concessions: Are all concession food & beverage items available for sale during the school day in compliance with Smart Snacks Guidelines for each grade group?

NA

Cafeteria: Are all food & beverage items that are available for sale (a la carte) in the cafeteria in compliance with Smart Snacks Guidelines for each grade group?

NA

Fundraisers: Are all food & beverage items that are available for sale during the school day in compliance with Smart Snacks Guidelines for each grade group (except exempt items not meant or able to consume at school)?

NA

Any other areas where food & beverage items are available for sale during the school day: Are they all in compliance with Smart Snacks Guidelines for each grade group?

NA

Describe progress and next steps to correct any issues:

Nutrition Education 7 CFR 210.31(c)(1):	**Yes**	**No**
• Does the local SWP have at least 1 goal for **Nutrition Education**?	☑	☐

Indicate the language that is currently written in the school wellness policy in relation to this topic:

All students K-12 shall receive nutrition education that teaches the knowledge and skills needed to adopt healthy eating behaviors and is aligned with the Montana Health Enhancement Standards. Nutrition education shall be integrated into the curriculum. Nutrition information and education shall be offered and prooted throughout the school campus and based on the U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

Healthier Generation example policy language: The district will teach, model, encourage and support healthy eating and physical activity among students. Schools will provide nutrition and physical activity education integrated into other subjects, as part of health education and/or offer standalone classes at each grade level.

Are all schools in the district meeting the Nutrition Education goal(s)?	**Meeting Goal**	**Meeting Partially**	**Not Meeting Goal**
	☑	☐	☐

Describe progress and next steps to correct any issues or change goal(s):

Nutrition Promotion 7 CFR 210.31(c)(1):	**Yes**	**No**
• Does the local SWP have at least 1 goal for **Nutrition Promotion**?	☑	☐

Indicate the language that is currently written in the school wellness policy in relation to this topic:

All students K-12 shall receive nutrition education that teaches the knowledge and skills needed to adopt healthy eating behaviors and is aligned with the Montana Health Enhancement Standards. Nutrition education shall be integrated into the curriculum. Nutrition information and education shall be offered and prooted throughout the school campus and based on the U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Staff who provide nutrition education shall have the appropriate training, such as in health enhancement or family and consumer sciences.

Nutrition promotion using evidence-based techniques and nutrition messages helps to create healthy food environments and positively influences lifelong healthy eating behaviors and encourage and increase participation in school meal programs. Healthier Generation example policy language: The district and all schools will promote healthy food and beverage choices for all students across the school campus and will encourage participation in school meal programs. The district will ensure the promotion of healthy food and beverage choices through: • school announcements, newsletters and website postings.

Are all schools in the district meeting the Nutrition Promotion goal(s)?	**Meeting Goal**	**Meeting Partially**	**Not Meeting Goal**
	☑	☐	☐

Describe progress and next steps to correct any issues or change goal(s):

Physical Activity 7 CFR 210.31(c)(1):	**Yes**	**No**
• Does the local SWP have at least 1 goal for **Physical Activity**?	☑	☐

Indicate the language that is currently written in the school wellness policy in relation to this topic:

The District shall offer health enhancement opportunities that include the components of a quality health enhancement program taught by a K-12 certified health enhancement specialists, if permitted by staffing levels. Health enhancement shall equip students with the knowledge, skills and values necessary for lifelong physical activity. All K-12 students of the District shall have the opportunity to participate regularly in supervised, organized or unstructured physical activities to maintain physical fitness and to understand the short and long term benefits of a physically active and healthy lifestyle.

Healthier Generation example policy language: The district requires that all students receive education on the benefits of physical activity in conjunction with health (including nutrition) education. The district prohibits the use or withholding physical activity (including recess) as a punishment during the school day and during the extended school day (including during out-of-school time/and before and after school). The district will provide resources and training to school and OST staff on appropriate ways to discipline students. The district requires that physical activity opportunities be adapted to make them accessible to students with disabilities. The district requires physical activity opportunities be offered to students from, but not limited to: • physical education • classroom physical activity • active academics • daily recess • before- and after-school activities, including sports • support for and promotion of active transportation.

Are all schools in the district meeting the Physical Activity goal(s)?	**Meeting Goal**	**Meeting Partially**	**Not Meeting Goal**
	☑	☐	☐

Describe progress and next steps to correct any issues:

School Wellness Policies are to Include 7 CFR 210.31(c)(1):	**Yes**	**No**
• Does the SWP has at least 1 goal for **Other Activities**?	☑	☐

Indicate the language that is currently written in the school wellness policy in relation to this topic:

The District may implement other appropriate programs that help create a school environment that conveys consistent wellness messages and is conductive to healthy eating and physical activity, such as staff wellness programs, non-food reward system and fundraising efforts.

Healthier Generation example policy language: The district will integrate wellness activities across the entire school setting, including the cafeteria, other food and beverage venues, classrooms and physical activity facilities. Schools in the district will integrate health and wellness into other curriculum areas, such as teaching nutrition concepts in mathematics, with consultation provided by either the school or the district curriculum experts. All school-sponsored events, whether before, during or after school, will adhere to the LWP guidelines and will include physical activity and healthy eating opportunities when appropriate

Are all schools in the district meeting the other school-based activities goal(s) that promote student wellness?	**Meeting Goal**	**Meeting Partially**	**Not Meeting Goal**
	☑	☐	☐

Describe progress and next steps to correct any issues:

Section 3. Your local School Wellness Policy Comparison to Model School Wellness Policies:

Indicate which model policy was used for comparison.

- ☐ Alliance for a Healthier Generation: Model Policy *Recommended
- ☑ Montana School Board Association Model School Wellness Policy
- ☐ Other (please specify):

Describe the extent to which the LEA's local school wellness policy compares to model school wellness policies.

Next Required Step. Make the Results of this Triennial School Wellness Policy Assessment Available to the Public: Inform the public about progress toward meeting the goals of the local school wellness policy and compliance with the local school wellness policy by making the triennial assessment available to the public in an accessible and easily understood manner.

How/where are the results of this triennial school wellness policy made available to the public? Provide link to website/resource or explain:

It will be available on the school website at
https://www.zurichelementary17.org

Maintain documentation on file regarding your local school wellness policy annual reviews, updates, and triennial assessments.