

Consider approval of recommended updates to the District's Local Wellness Policy, under Board Policy FFA (LOCAL).

1. Background:

Beginning in 2004, school districts that participate in the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program were required to develop a wellness policy as part of the Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of 2004. In 2010, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act (HHFKA) expanded the requirements of the wellness policy to strengthen policies and increase transparency. The responsibility for developing, implementing, and evaluating a wellness policy is placed at the local level, so the unique needs of each school under the district's jurisdiction can be addressed. The wellness policy addresses specific goals for nutrition education and promotion, physical activity, nutrition standards for foods sold and given away to students, policies for food and beverage marketing, and methods for evaluation and updating the public on the policy.

With input from Southwest ISD SHAC members and district staff, an updated Local Wellness Policy recommendation has been developed. The committee met multiple times to review and discuss potential revisions, resulting in two proposed changes to the policy.

The first recommended change is the addition of the statement: "The District shall establish and maintain school gardens and farm-to-school programs" under the section outlining the district's goals for nutrition education.

The second recommended change is to update the designation of the district official responsible for overseeing policy development and implementation. As the Local Wellness Policy (LWP) falls under Child Nutrition compliance, it is recommended that this section be revised to reflect "Child Nutrition Department Administrator."

2. Process:

Adoption of the district wellness policy, created collaboratively with members of the Southwest ISD SHAC and district staff.

3. Fiscal Impact:

None.

4. Recommendation:

That the board approve the changes that were presented to the District's Local Wellness Policy, Board Policy FFA (LOCAL).

5. Required:

Board action.