Spartanburg School District Two Wellness Policy Committee Meeting Minutes April 28, 2020

Invitations to the Zoom meeting were emailed on March 11, 2020.

Zoom Meeting Attendees:

Brandon McKillop, School Board Member and Parent
Deana Watson, Principal and Parent
Drew Fisher, PE Teacher
Amber Comer, Assistant Principal
Angie Ramsey, Principal
Jill Cooke, District Nurse Supervisor and Parent
Autumn Steadings, School Nurse and Parent
Carolina Cabe, PE Teacher
Megan Bayliff, Teacher and Parent
Ben Settle, PE Teacher
Noah Rucker, Director of Food Services
Kim Ashby, Director of Elementary & Middle Schools, District Wellness Policy Contact

The meeting started at 9:00 am.

Kim Ashby welcomed the group and introduced Committee Members.

Kim Ashby reviewed the current District Wellness Policy. Mrs. Ashby discussed the positive partnership that the district has with Chartwells and all that they do to promote the health and wellness of our students, families and district staff. Mrs. Ashby shared the variety of ways that Chartwells provides nutrition education to our students.

Mrs. Ashby shared that each school has a designated Wellness Coordinator. The school Wellness Coordinator also shares information that models, encourages and supports healthy lifestyles for all students and their families. Mrs. Ashby shared that the Wellness Policy encourages at least 60 minutes of physical activity each day for elementary and middle school students. In addition, the expectation regarding keeping physical activity grounded in the positive was discussed. For example, recess cannot be withheld as a form of punishment nor will students participate in physical activity as a form of punishment.

Mrs. Ashby reviewed the role of the District Wellness Committee and how the input gained from the committee members will be utilized.

Mrs. Ashby reviewed the expectations regarding the marketing of foods and beverages during the school day. All foods and beverages marketed or promoted during the school day must meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks guidelines.

Mrs. Ashby asked for any questions regarding the District Wellness Policy. There were no questions.

Noah Rucker reviewed information included on the district website under the Food Services tab that includes nutritional content of school meals. In addition, Mr. Rucker reviewed the guidelines for Smart Snacks in Schools. He shared that only foods and beverages that meet these guidelines can be sold to students during the school day. Mr. Rucker commented that District Two schools are doing an outstanding job with meeting the Smart Snacks guidelines.

Mr. Rucker shared information regarding the Dinner and Snack programs in the district. Dinner programs are currently housed at seven Elementary Schools. Hendrix Elementary, Boling Springs Elementary, Boiling Springs Intermediate, Chesnee Elementary, Mayo Elementary, Cooley Springs Fingerville Elementary and Shoally Creek Elementary. The dinner programs at these school provided over 3,000 dinner meals each week to district two students. The after school snack program is available at all nine elementary schools. Hendrix Elementary, Boiling Springs Elementary, Boiling Springs Intermediate, Chesnee Elementary, Mayo Elementary, Cooley Springs Fingerville Elementary, Carlisle Foster's Grove Elementary, Oakland Elementary, Mayo Elementary and Shoally Creek Elementary. The after school snack program provides over 4,000 snacks to students each week.

Mr. Rucker reviewed the purpose of the Triennial Assessment of the Wellness Program. He commented that our schools have continued to improve with each year. Mr. Rucker shared that the district will self-assess using the assessment report and submit our findings to the State Department of Education. Our Triennial Assessment will then be posted under the Food Services tab of the district webpage.

Mrs. Ashby asked for suggestions for revisions to the district's Wellness Policy and/or suggestions for improving wellness initiatives in our district. Mr. McKillop suggested that we provide pictures of the snacks included in our vending machines so that the community can gain a better understanding of the types of options that we provide. Mr. Rucker agreed that the pictures would be a good addition to the Food Services tab. Mrs. Cabe mentioned the partnership that Oakland Elementary and Boiling Springs Intermediate has with Wofford College to provide information regarding a "Healthy Choice of the Day" tip for students. Other suggestions included continuing to emphasize district and school events like "Walk to School Day/Week", Jump Rope for Heart and Wellness Weeks. Mrs. Ashby agreed to share the suggestions with the school Principals for further consideration and implementation.

Mrs. Steadings suggested encouraging schools to offer Employee Health Screenings. Mrs. Cooke shared that she can work with school nurses to encourage these events and help with scheduling.

There were no suggestions offered for changes to the district Wellness Policy.

Mrs. Ashby and Mr. Rucker thanked the participants for their time and willingness to support healthy lifestyles for our community.

The Zoom meeting ended at 9:30 am.