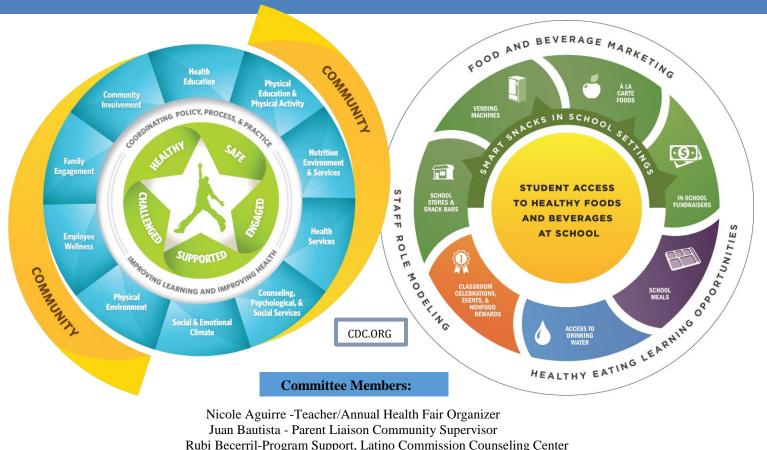


Coachella Valley Unified School District Wellness Policy



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Our Committee's Goal: To build a coordinated school health system that communicates, supports and reinforces health literacy through health education, physical education and activity, health services, nutrition services, psychological and counseling services, health promotion for staff, a safe & healthy school environment; along with parent/guardian and community involvement.

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PREAMBLE

Coachella Valley Unified School District is committed to providing a school environment which enhances the learning and development of wellness practices. It is our creed to give students and staff the tools and resources needed to make lifelong healthy choices. We understand the number of overweight children in California has reached epidemic levels. We acknowledge the scientific research that obese and overweight individuals are at increased risk for health problems such as Type 2 diabetes, hypertension, stroke, heart disease and other health concerns. We recognize the relationship between student nutrition/health status, their school attendance, and ability to learn. We affirm A COORDINATED APPROACH; SCHOOL HEALTH IMPROVES STUDENT WELLNESS AND THEIR CAPACITY TO LEARN THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF FAMILIES, SCHOOLS, AND COMMUNITIES WORKING TOGETHER. (REF 1)

We have agreed to abide by the following:

- To comply with all federal, state and local requirements for the Child Nutrition Program,
- To ensure the availability and quality of healthy foods and beverages served and sold at school.
- To increase the quality and quantity of instruction in physical education to provide more activity that is physical and enhance student achievement of California's Physical Education Model Content Standards.
- To collaborate with community health agencies including behavioral health to assist families in accessing health care.
- To communicate accurate and current health/wellness information via various media to staff and students.
- To encourage staff to be leaders and role models of living a healthy lifestyle by providing staff with tools and tips to promote health and wellness.
- To provide access to healthy foods throughout the school day through reimbursable school meals.

WELLNESS COMMITTEE

The District designee will convene a representative District wellness committee that meets at least four times per year. The committee will establish goals and oversee school health and safety policies and programs. This includes development, implementation, periodic review and update of this District Wellness Policy. The District Wellness Coordinator will retain records to document compliance with the requirements of the Wellness Policy. The Committee shall permit parents/guardians, students, food service employees, teachers, school health professionals, Board members, school administrators, and members of the public to participate in the development, implementation, periodic review and update of the district's Wellness Policy. The Committee shall Reflect the diversity of the community and welcome participation of other groups or individuals (i.e. as health educators, curriculum directors, counselors, before- and after-school program staff, health practitioners, and/or others interested in school health issues). When possible, membership will include Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education coordinators (SNAP-Ed).

Revisions and Updating the Policy

The Committee will update or modify the Wellness Policy based on the results of the annual assessments and/or as District, priorities or community needs change. In addition, as wellness goals are met, new health science is developed and new information becomes available, the Wellness Policy will be updated following new Federal and State Guidelines or standards. The Wellness Policy will be assessed and updated as indicated at least every three years, following the triennial assessment results.

NUTRITION GUIDELINES

School meal programs are consistent with State and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) requirements and meet minimum nutrition requirements established by local, state, and federal statutes and regulations.

The District is committed to:

- Inform appropriate constituencies (parents, teachers, school administrators, community, etc.) about this key element of the Wellness Policy.
- Plan and prepare menus to comply with established nutrition standards.
- Provide food service personnel with regular professional development on school meal programs, nutrition/health education and wellness.
- Share nutrition information about foods and beverages with school constituencies to the extent possible.
- Offer breakfast in all elementary and secondary schools and expand breakfast program by serving Second Chance Breakfast & Grab n Go breakfast options when possible.
- Pursue purchasing locally grown produce to the extent possible.
- Ensure The USDA Professional Standards for State and Local Nutrition Programs are followed to ensure that professional development in the area of food and nutrition is provided for food service directors, managers and staff.
- Provide facilities that are easy to access and adequate to meet demand.
- Prominently display the healthiest choices (such as salads and fruit) in the cafeterias to encourage students to make healthy choices; following **SMARTER LUNCHROOM STRATEGIES.** (REF 17)
- Provide students and parents education on school menus and an opportunity for input through menu committees.
- Ensure menus are created and reviewed by a nutrition professional.
- Feature menu choices that are flavorful, attractively presented and meet program regulations.
- Promotion of nutrition education.
- Promote the school meal programs to parents, teachers, school administrator, community and stakeholders.
- Provide food safety training to all nutrition services staff.
- Conduct site food tasting activities with students to introduce new menu items and menu development.
- Provide a variety of fruits and vegetables throughout the week.
- Offer 1% or non-fat milk placed in front of other beverages in the coolers.
- Provide alternative entrée options (e.g. yogurt parfaits, salad options, etc.) within service areas.
- ACCOMMODATE STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS following CDE and USDA requirements. (REF 2)

Water

To promote hydration, free, unflavored safe drinking water will be available to all students throughout the school day and throughout every school campus. The District will make drinking water available where school meals are served during mealtimes. In addition, students are allowed to bring and carry an approved water bottle, filled with only water.

Foods, Beverages, Vending and à la carte

Foods, Beverages, Vending and à la carte entrees served *within the school meal programs and sold by* the District's child nutrition program will meet local- or nationally-recognized standards and be in compliance with National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and Child and Adult Care Feeding Program (CACFP) requirements:

Nutrition Services is committed to:

- Following Education Code sections 49430, 49431, 49431.7;
- California Code of Regulations sections 15575, 15577, 15578;
- Code of Federal Regulations sections 210.11, 220.12
 - o See **REGULATION QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE** (REF 3)
- Ensure that foods and beverages available to students at District schools should support health curriculum, contribute to the reduction of childhood obesity and promote optimal health.

Foods, Beverages, Vending and à la carte entrees sold *outside the school meal programs and sold* to students by organizations, classes receiving a grade and parent organizations will meet local or nationally recognized standards:

The District is committed to:

- Following Education Code sections 49430, 49431, 49431.7;
- California Code of Regulations sections 15575, 15577, 15578;
- Code of Federal Regulations sections 210.11, 220.12
- And California code of regulation section 15500 and 15501
 - See <u>Competitive Foods and Beverages</u>: <u>Summary and Overview of State and Federal Rules</u> (REF 4)
- All foods and beverages sold to students, including those provided at student stores, vending machines, fundraisers, in extended day or before/after care on school grounds, shall meet or exceed state and federal nutrition standards.
- Ensure that foods and beverages available to students at District schools should support health curriculum, contribute to the reduction of childhood obesity and promote optimal health.
- Encourage fundraising projects that promote physical activity.
- A quick Reference card shall be available and updated along with any regulation changes to indicate if item is allowed and to what grade level the item is available to.
- District Wellness Coordinator and District Nutritionist will assist site in identifying food or beverage item compliance prior to event.

STANDARDS

Marketing:

It is the intent of the District to protect and promote student's health on campus by permitting advertising and marketing for only those foods and beverages consistent with **SMART SNACKS IN SCHOOL NUTRITION STANDARDS.** (REF 5) (i.e. signage, vending machine fronts, logos, scoreboards, school supplies, advertisements in school publications, coupon or incentive programs, free giveaways)

Rewards and Incentives:

Staff and stakeholders will use only nutritionally compliant foods and emphasize **NONFOOD INCENTIVES AS ALTERNATIVES.** (REF 6)

FOODS AND BEVERAGES WILL NOT BE USED AS A REWARD, OR WITHHELD AS PUNISHMENT FOR ANY REASON, SUCH AS FOR PERFORMANCE OR BEHAVIOR. SUBTITLE B: CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM - (Sec. 221) (REF 7)

Class Celebrations/Special Occasions:

- School staff shall encourage parents to support the **STATE NUTRITIONAL STANDARDS** (REF 9) and the District's Wellness Policy by considering nutritional quality when selecting foods for classroom parties.
 - o Ordering classroom party foods from Nutrition Services may ensure that it is a safe & healthy choice.
- Class celebrations must occur after the lunch period.
- All food items brought on campus by parents/guardians or other volunteers or school staff for student celebrations must be ready to use, prepackaged, and pre-wrapped items with a label listing ingredients and pre-approved by principal; so students with food allergies are protected from accidental exposure.
- No home-cooked meals, baked or fast foods will be served to students in order to meet nutrition guidelines and minimize the risk of foodborne illnesses and risk of allergies.
 - SPECIFIED UNDER THE US FDA PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE FOOD CODE 2009 (P.29) (REF 8)
- The District Wellness Coordinator and District Nutritionist will assist campus and parents/guardian in identifying food or beverage item compliance.

Fundraising:

Staff is required to utilize the appropriate request form and follow protocols for approvals prior to fundraising. The District Wellness Coordinator and/or District Nutritionist will assist campus and parents/guardian in identifying food or beverage item compliance.

To support children's health and school nutrition-education efforts, any fundraising activities taking place on the school campus during the school day will be consistent with the District's goals for a healthy school community.

SCHOOLS WILL ENCOURAGE FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES THAT PROMOTE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY (SUCH AS WALK-A-THONS, JUMP ROPE FOR HEART, FUN RUNS, ETC). THE DISTRICT WILL MAKE AVAILABLE A LIST OF IDEAS FOR ACCEPTABLE FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES. (REF 10)

Fundraising activities that do not **COMPLY WITH CALIFORNIA SMART SNACKS STANDARDS** (REF 5) must meet one of the following conditions:

- It takes place off and away from school premises.
- It takes place thirty minutes after the last bell at the end of the school day and before 12:00am.

- All food items brought on campus by parents/guardians or other volunteers or school staff for student celebrations MUST be ready to use, prepackaged, and pre-wrapped items with a label listing ingredients and pre-approved by principal; so students with food allergies are protected from accidental exposure.
- Sharing of foods and beverages is discouraged given concerns about allergies and other restrictions on some children's diets.

NUTRITION EDUCATION

All students shall receive quality nutrition education through curriculum that is aligned with state and federal learning objectives and standards. This shall be provided as part of the health education program and, as appropriate, shall be integrated into other academic subjects in the regular educational program. Nutrition education also may be offered through before- and after-school programs. Nutrition promotion and education positively influence lifelong eating behaviors by using evidenced-based techniques and nutrition messages, and by creating food environments that encourage healthy nutrition choices and encourage participation in school meal programs. Staff and students will receive consistent nutrition messages throughout schools, classrooms, and cafeterias. Nutrition promotion, which includes marketing and advertising nutritious foods and beverages to students, is most effective when implemented consistently through a comprehensive and multi-channel approach. This includes school staff, teachers, parents, students and the community.

The District encourages Nutrition education that teaches skills that are behavior-focused, incorporate experiential learning opportunities (e.g., reading of Nutrition Facts labels, taste testing, cooking demonstrations, tours of farmers markets, and school gardens) and engage students and family members in reinforcing healthy nutrition behaviors; biliterate as appropriate.

- K-12 nutrition curriculum aligns with <u>COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS</u> (REF 11) and integrates into units on Math, Social Science, Health, Language Arts and Physical Education.
- The staff responsible for nutrition education will be adequately prepared through continual professional development activities.
- Nutrition education will involve sharing information with families and the broader community to impact students and the health of the community. CVUSD will provide information, to families that encourage them to teach their children about health and nutrition.
- Students will be encouraged to start each day with a healthy breakfast.
- School and transportation schedules will be structured to ensure an increase in student participation in the nutritious breakfast program.
- Students receive consistent messages that promote nutrition throughout the school, classroom, cafeteria, home, community, and school media displays.
- Collaborate with external health and wellness organizations, universities, agencies, and foundations to provide health education and outreach to students of CVUSD.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

THERE IS A GROWING BODY OF RESEARCH FOCUSED ON THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN SCHOOL-BASED PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, INCLUDING PHYSICAL EDUCATION, AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AMONG SCHOOL-AGED YOUTH. (REF 12)

The District strives to create a culture of physical activity and provide opportunities to be physically active on a regular basis. All students will fulfill the state mandated physical education requirements for the current school year. Opportunities for moderate to vigorous physical activity shall be provided through physical education and recess and may also be provided through school athletic programs, extracurricular programs, before- and after-school programs, programs encouraging students to walk or bicycle to and from school, in-class physical activity breaks, and other structured and unstructured activities.

The District will follow the **PHYSICAL EDUCATION MODEL CONTENT STANDARDS FOR CALIFORNIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS.** (REF 13) These content standards, from the **CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, INCLUDES FRAMEWORKS** (REF 14) to encourage the highest achievement of every student, by defining the knowledge, concepts, and skills that students should acquire at each grade level.

Physical Education (including goal for MVPA)

- All students, including students with disabilities, special health-care needs, and in alternative educational settings, will receive daily physical education (or its equivalent of 200 minutes every 10 days for elementary school students and 400 minutes every 10 days for middle and high school students) for the entire school year.
- The school District discourages students from substituting other school or community activities for physical education class time or credit in place of required physical education.
- Students will spend at least 50 percent of physical education class time participating in moderate to vigorous physical activity (MVPA).
- Physical activity opportunities during the school day (including recess, classroom physical activity breaks or physical education) will not be withheld as punishment.
- After-school, child-care and enrichment programs will provide and encourage through the provision of space, equipment, and activities daily periods of MVPA for all participants.

Recess (Elementary)

- All elementary schools will offer at least 20 minutes of recess on all days during the school year. *This policy may be waived on early dismissal or late arrival days*.
- Outdoor recess will be offered when weather is feasible for outdoor play.
- Recess will complement, not substitute, physical education class. Recess monitors or teachers will encourage students to be active, and will serve as role models by being physically active alongside the students whenever feasible.

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Classroom Physical Activity Breaks (Elementary and Secondary)

- The District recognizes that students are more attentive and ready to learn if provided with periodic breaks when they can be physically active or stretch. Thus, students will be offered periodic opportunities to be active or to stretch throughout the day on all or most days during a typical school week. The District recommends teachers occasionally provide short (3-5 minutes) physical activity breaks to students during and between classroom time (such as walk-in-place or stretching).
- These physical activity breaks will complement, not substitute for, physical education class, recess, and class transition periods.

Joint Use:

The District will support a joint use agreement to make District facilities or grounds available for recreational or sports activities outside the school day and/or to use community facilities to expand students' access to opportunity for physical activity.

Safe Routes to School:

- THE COACHELLA VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PLAN (REF 15) has been developed at the direction of the Superintendent pursuant to the California Education Code.
- The School District will assess and, if necessary to the extent possible, make needed improvements to make it safer and easier for students to walk and bike to school. When appropriate, the District will work together with local public works, public safety, and/or police departments in those efforts.

OTHER ACTIVITIES THAT PROMOTE WELLNESS

The Wellness Committee will uphold our commitment to identify and communicate resources within the District and Counties that support students, their families and staff, to encourage positive health behaviors.

All efforts related to obtaining federal, state or association recognition for efforts, or grants/funding opportunities for healthy school environments will be coordinated with and complementary to the Wellness Policy.

All school-sponsored events will adhere to the Wellness Policy guidelines and include physical activity and healthy eating opportunities when appropriate.

Community Partnerships

The District will continue to develop relationships with community partners (e.g., hospitals, universities/colleges, local businesses, SNAP-Ed providers and coordinators, etc.) in support of this Wellness Policy's implementation. Existing and new community partnerships and sponsorships will be evaluated to ensure that they are consistent with the Wellness Policy and its goals.

Community Health Promotion and Family Engagement

The District will promote to parents/caregivers, families, and the general community the benefits of and approaches for healthy eating and physical activity throughout the school year. Families will be informed and invited to participate in school-sponsored activities and will receive information about health promotion efforts. The District

will use electronic mechanisms (e.g., email or displaying notices on the district's website), as well as non-electronic mechanisms, (e.g., newsletters, presentations to parents or sending information home to parents), to ensure that all families are actively notified of opportunities to participate in school-sponsored activities and receive information about health promotion efforts.

Staff Wellness and Health Promotion

Schools in the District will implement strategies to support staff in actively promoting and modeling healthy eating and physical activity behaviors. The District promotes staff member participation in health promotion programs and will support programs for staff members on healthy eating/weight management that are accessible and free or low-cost.

WELLNESS POLICY EVALUATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

The school site principal will ensure school-based compliance with the established district-wide nutrition and physical activity wellness policies. The school food service manager at the school or District level will ensure compliance with the nutrition policies within school food service areas. The Wellness Committee will convene quarterly to identify process improvement opportunities and develop further implementation plans as appropriate.

Success indicators will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the Wellness Policy on an annual basis. **RESOURCE AND SURVEY DATA** (REF 16) includes physical fitness tests, number of overweight/obese students, depressionrelated feelings (student reported), number of suspensions, considerations regarding school climate, learning supports and barriers.

Community Involvement, Outreach and Communications

- The District will actively communicate ways in which representatives of Committee and others can participate in the development, implementation and periodic review and update of the Wellness Policy through a variety of means with partners and liaisons.
- The District will also inform parents of the improvements that have been made to school meals and compliance with school meal standards, availability of child nutrition programs and how to apply, and a description of and compliance with Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards.
- The District will use electronic mechanisms (i.e email or displaying notices on the district's website, as well as non-electronic mechanisms including newsletters, presentations to parents, or sending information home to parents) to ensure that all families are actively notified of the content of, implementation of, and updates to support the wellness efforts.
- The District will ensure that communications are culturally and linguistically appropriate to the community, and accomplished through means similar to other ways that the District and individual schools are communicating important school information with parents.
- The District will actively notify the public about the content of or any updates to the Wellness Policy annually and triennial reports.

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

For all other FNS nutrition assistance programs, State or local agencies, and their subrecipients, must post the following Nondiscrimination Statement: In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English. To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at:

http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

USDA Declaración de no Discriminación (Español)

Para todos los demás programas de asistencia nutricional de FNS, las agencias estatales o locales, y sus subreceptores, deben publicar la siguiente Declaración de No Discriminación: Los demás programas de asistencia nutricional del FNS, las agencias estatales y locales, y sus beneficiarios secundarios, deben publicar el siguiente Aviso de No Discriminación: De conformidad con la Ley Federal de Derechos Civiles y los reglamentos y políticas de derechos civiles del Departamento de Agricultura de los EE. UU. (USDA, por sus siglas en inglés), se prohíbe que el USDA, sus agencias, oficinas, empleados e instituciones que participan o administran programas del USDA discriminen sobre la base de raza, color, nacionalidad, sexo, discapacidad, edad, o en represalia o venganza por actividades previas de derechos civiles en algún programa o actividad realizados o financiados por el USDA. Las personas con discapacidades que necesiten medios alternativos para la comunicación de la información del programa (por ejemplo, sistema Braille, letras grandes, cintas de audio, lenguaje de señas americano, etc.), deben ponerse en contacto con la agencia (estatal o local) en la que solicitaron los beneficios. Las personas sordas, con dificultades de audición o discapacidades del habla pueden comunicarse con el USDA por medio del Federal Relay Service [Servicio Federal de Retransmisión] al (800) 877-8339. Además, la información del programa se puede proporcionar en otros idiomas. Para presentar una denuncia de discriminación, complete el Formulario de Denuncia de Discriminación del Programa del USDA, (AD-3027) que está disponible en línea en:

http://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Spanish_Form_508_Compliant_6_8_12_ 0.pdf. y en cualquier oficina del USDA, o bien escriba una carta dirigida al USDA e incluya en la carta toda la información solicitada en el formulario. Para solicitar una copia del formulario de denuncia, llame al (866) 632-9992. Haga llegar su formulario lleno o carta al USDA por: (1) correo: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; o (3) correo electrónico: program.intake@usda.gov. Esta institución es un proveedor que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades.

REFERENCES

REF 1 What is Coordinated School Health?

http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/cs/

REF 2 Special Dietary Needs State Form (CNP-925)

http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/cr/documents/medstat.doc

REF 3 Quick Reference Card

http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/he/compfoods.asp

REF 4 Competitive Foods and Beverages: Summary and Overview of State and Federal Rules

http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/sn/mbsnp112015.asp

REF 5 California Competitive Food Standards Calculator

http://www.californiaprojectlean.org/doc.asp?adp=192&id=293

REF 6 Incentives & Rewards

https://healthymeals.fns.usda.gov/local-wellness-policy-resources/wellness-policy-elements/student-incentives-and-rewards

REF 7 Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act

https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/3307

REF 8 Food Code US FDA Public Health Service 2009

https://www.fda.gov/downloads/Food/GuidanceRegulation/UCM189448.pdf

REF 9 California Department of Education requirements for competitive food and beverages.

http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu/he/compfoods.asp

REF 10 Healthy Fundraisers

https://www.healthiergeneration.org/news_events/2014/04/16/920/10 smart ways to raise

REF 11 Common Core Standards for Nutrition Education

http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/healthstandmar08.pdf

REF 12 Physical Activity Facts

https://www.cdc.gov/healthyschools/physicalactivity/facts.htm

REF 13 PE Model Content Standards for CA

http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/pestandards.pdf

REF 14 CDE PE Framework

http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/pe/cf/

REF 15 CVUSD Transportation Safety

 $\frac{http://cvusd.sharpschool.net/UserFiles/Servers/Server_5154534/File/departments/cwa/13\%20Handbook\%20forw20parents\%20\&\%20students.pdf$

REF 16 Survey Data:

http://www.kidsdata.org/topic/725/student-weight-current/table#fmt=1026&loc=1087&tf=84&ch=623,624,625&sortColumnId=0&sortType=asc

http://www.kidsdata.org/topic/662/depression-grade/bar#fmt=943&loc=1087&tf=81&pdist=163&ch=69,1177,1176&sort=loc

http://www.kidsdata.org/topic/310/fitnessstandards/Trend#fmt=452&loc=1087&tf=64,84&ch=623,624,625&pdist=33

REF 17 Smarter Lunchroom Strategies

https://www.smarterlunchrooms.org/scorecard-tools/smarter-lunchrooms-strategies