

School Wellness Committee Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: Monday, February 24, 2020

Time: 4:15 pm – 5:15 pm

Location: Laveen Education Center, Room 144C

Attendees: Jennifer Burnap, Gavin Tucker, Jaclyn Morales, Angela Gomez, Jennifer Gordon

Led by: Jennifer Gordon

Notes

- Welcomed new District Nutritionist, Angela Gomez, RDN.
- Reviewed all of the progress that the School Wellness Committee has made over the past 2.5 years.
- Presented Laveen's School Wellness updated web page. The web page includes the new Wellness Policy Supplement, the Assessment and the two-page Highlights document. All USDA required school wellness documents are up-to-date and that they will be reviewed in a few weeks as part of the School Meal Programs Administrative Review. Any review findings related to School Wellness will be shared with the committee at a later date.
 - The committee recommended that the two-page Highlights handout be printed and distributed at the upcoming open houses at all the schools, on March 25th.
 - Some other ideas for distribution included: Welcome Back Night, Kindergarten Round-Ups, 8th Grade Promotion Night
- Shared an overview of the partnership between the Life Time Foundation and the Child Nutrition Services Department. This 3-year grant includes support from the Life Time Foundation for the following:
 - Review of all food labels by the Foundation's registered dietitian
 - Monthly support calls to develop an action plan and assess progress
 - Collaboration with Chef Kent Getzin to implement scratch cooking and develop culinary skills for all nutrition staff
 - Spanish translation will be provided during staff development sessions
- Reviewed free nutrition resources for teachers; will email links to all committee members
 - Whole Kids Foundation: https://www.wholekidsfoundation.org/healthy-teachers?mc_cid=532e413a99&mc_eid=c0b4704a3b
 - Hooray 4 Healthy: <https://www.hooray4healthy.org/>
- The committee agreed that the next steps should be to start strategically planning ways to accomplish some of the goals for the School Wellness Policy. Some of the topics to address include:
 - Smart Snack compliance, including classroom parties and fundraising waivers
 - Additional nutrition promotion materials in the cafeterias
 - More plant-based menu options, including emphasis on more flavorful and exciting vegetable choices
 - Health and hygiene classes for students
- Committee expressed concern for students who may be hungry and figuring out a way to provide snacks throughout the day. Health Associates should have snacks in the health office.
- Child Nutrition Services providing free lunches to children 18 and younger during Spring Break at Desert Meadows School from 11am to 12:00pm.
- Next meeting: late March (ideally before each school's Open House)