



# WELLNESS POLICY CHANGES

## AFFECTING MIDDLE SCHOOLS (6-8)

MPS is amending its current Wellness Policy (Policy 6690) in order to comply with changes in Federal Rules. Funding for the Federal School Meal Programs depends on compliance with these rules. Changes scheduled to take effect July 1, 2017.

- △ Policy and Regulations require a thirty minute (30 minutes) for service and eating of meals.
- △ **Definition of the School Day – for limitations purposes on selling or offering food and beverages to students** 12:00 a.m. (midnight) to thirty minutes (30 minutes) **after** your dismissal on every student contact day.
- △ **School Stores** – All food and beverages sold at school stores must comply with the [USDA Smart Snacks](#) criteria and cannot compete with the School Meal Program; affected by the definition of the school day above.
- △ **Snacks and School/Classroom celebrations** – Snacks, food or beverages offered to students, or sold to students during the school day must comply with the USDA Smart Snacks criteria or School Meal standards and cannot compete with the School Meal Program.
- △ **Fundraising** – Fundraisers sponsored by the school, classroom or school-approved student activity cannot include food or beverage items unless they meet the [USDA Smart Snacks](#) criteria. The Principal must approve all fundraisers and fundraising cannot be done for third parties other than the school's official parent group(s). This does not apply to fundraisers sponsored by third parties (i.e. PTO/PTA, booster clubs, etc.) occurring outside of the defined school day.
- △ **Concessions** - If your school operates a concession stand during the school day at school events, food and beverages sold or offered must comply with either the USDA Smart Snacks criteria or Meal Standards - it is immaterial who is operating the concession stand; affected by the definition of the school day above.
- △ Food cannot be used as a reward or incentive, nor can food be brought into school for personal celebrations (birthdays, etc.) \*
- △ Unrestricted access to potable water must be available to all students during meal periods.
- △ Schools will be required to participate in a wellness assessment that will result in a locally adopted wellness action plan.
- △ Schools will be required to have adequate storage for bicycles to support Safe Routes to Schools (external bike racks, for example).
- △ Physical Activity cannot be used as a response to inappropriate behavior, either by requiring it, or by denying access to it.
- △ Meals cannot be unreasonably delayed or denied as a response to inappropriate behavior.

Snacks, beverages and food that comply with the Smart Snacks criteria are included in the [Guide to Smart Snacks in Schools](#) and may be-obtained through the Culinary and Wellness Services Department.

\* the prohibition against food for personal celebrations is not new, included here for purposes of reminding principals of current rules.