John C. Haines Healthy Celebrations & Fundraising Plan

Chicago Public Schools has launched a LearnWell Healthy Schools Initiative. Haines supports lifelong healthy eating habits for all students and staff. We are committed to providing a healthy environment for students to learn and play as part of this initiative. Beginning September 2, 2014, the following plan will take effect to ensure that students have the opportunity to learn in a healthy school environment.

School rewards and celebrations are defined as:

Celebrations: Special events or activities occurring at school, convened in a classroom or elsewhere at school as part of festivity or ceremony or as part of a before, during or after school activity.

Fundraiser: Any activity, event or sale to raise funds by or for a school occurring on school grounds whether before, during or after school hours including any direct sales activity by students on school grounds.

Haines will allow food sales at concession stands during Field Day and sporting and other events where adults and non-students make up the majority of the audience.

Holiday Parties

Parties will consist of primarily non-food centered activities. If food is provided, healthy snacks and beverages will be provided by teaching staff, parents, and caretakers. Halloween and Valentine’s Day will be the only times food of little nutritional value will be served. During class parties, healthy beverages including water and 100% juices must meet the nutrition requirements of the CPS Healthy Snack and Beverage Policy. Sugar-sweetened beverages such as Sunny D, Capri Sun, Gatorade and other sports drinks will not be provided. Candies and baked goods may not be served. Teachers, parents and caretakers will ensure that snacks served to students during student parties are wholesome and are on the approved list of snacks made available by the School Wellness Team.

Birthday and other Celebrations

Parties & caretakers are encouraged to focus on fun rather than food for birthday and other celebrations. In the event that food is brought in to the classroom, healthy snacks and beverages should be served. Sugar-sweetened beverages, cakes, cookies, and ice cream may not be served as part of class birthday parties. Parents/guardians and teachers should use non-food treats like stickers and pencils or allow students special birthday privileges instead of serving foods and beverages high in sugar, sodium and fat. Unhealthy snacks will be returned.
Direct Food Sales By Students

School clubs, team and programs may not raise funds by asking students to participate in direct sale of unhealthy food by students. This includes the sale of junk foods like candy, candy bars, baked goods, frozen pizza and cookie dough. Fundraising proposals related to food, snacks and beverages must first be approved by the School Wellness Team to ensure proposed items are within nutritional guidelines.

School Store and Food Sales during the School day

According to USDA policy, the school store must not operate in completion to the school lunch or breakfast. Additionally, the school store may not sell candy and other snacks of minimal nutritional value to students during the school day. Teachers and groups may not sell snacks high in sugar, salt and fat to students to raise funds for school programs, projects or clubs. The annual Taffy apple sale will be permitted as parents, adults and non-students make up the majority of the intended audience for these sales.

Food at School events

With the exception of concession stands at sporting (i.e. Field Day) and concert events, food of minimal nutritional value will not be sold to students and their families during school events in order to raise funds for school purposes.

Action Steps

Carrying out the school’s Healthy Celebration and Fundraising Plan is the responsibility of our entire community of staff, students, parents and caretakers. To that end, the following initial steps were taken to support our commitment to the health and wellness of our students.

1. We sent home a letter to parents and guardians explaining the Learn Well Initiative, what parents can do to support healthy eating habits at home and asked parents and students to suggest ways Haines can become healthier.
2. We met with LSC and teachers to review and discuss the LearnWell Healthy Schools Initiative and draft the Healthy Celebrations and Fundraising Plan.
3. We are sending home the John C. Haines Healthy Celebrations and Fundraising Plan above.
4. Resource lists and comprehensive lists of healthy snacks and healthy fundraising ideas will be made available to teachers, coaches, students and parents.

Thank You,
Haines School Wellness Team

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