

Healthy Schools Program Assessment Guide | District-Level

The Healthy Schools Program Framework of Best Practices identifies specific criteria for a healthy school environment and serves as a guide for policy and practice change. The Healthy Schools Program Assessment is a version of the School Health Index that addresses the health topics in the Healthy Schools Program Framework of Best Practices: Policy & Environment, Nutrition Services, Smart Snacks, Health & Physical Education, Physical Activity, and Employee Wellness.

This document will help district administrators support their schools as they navigate the Healthy Schools Program Assessment and the required evidence and documentation for the National Healthy Schools Award. Only criteria that *can be* answered by the district appears in this document.

For the full HSP Assessment Guide, please visit: https://www.healthiergeneration.org/resources/assessment-guide-for-schools

NOTE: Questions marked with "FR" are components of the federal requirement for local wellness policies (LWP).

Use this guide to gather answers to the assessment questions. Reference the "people who may know" column to identify the people in your school who may help you accurately complete the assessment.

Enter your school's responses in the online assessment tool at www.healthiergeneration.org/app

Once your Healthy Schools
Program Assessment is
complete, use the National
Healthy Schools Award
Guide to determine your
school's potential eligibility
for recognition.

Topic Area: Policy and Environment

Criteria	Question	Level of Completion	People Who May Know	Evidence of Success	National Award Documentation
PO-2	Written school health and safety policies: Does your school or district have written health and safety policies that include the following components? Rationale for developing and implementing the policies Population for which the policies apply (e.g., students, staff, visitors) Where the policies apply (e.g., on and/or off school property) When the policies apply Programs supported by the policies Designation of person(s) responsible (e.g., school administrator(s), teachers) for implementing the policies Designation of person(s) responsible (e.g., school administrator(s), teachers) for enforcing the policies Communication procedures (e.g., through staff meetings, professional development, website, staff handbook, parent handbook) of the policies Procedures for addressing policy infractions Definitions of terms	 3 = All of our health and safety policies include all of these components. 2 = Most of our health and safety policies include all of these components. 1 = Some of our health and safety policies include some of these components. 0 = Few of our health and safety policies include only a few of these components, or our school or district does not have any health and safety policies. 	Principal District food service director District wellness lead School wellness lead National Advisors: Shauvon Simmons-Wright	Verify that the required components are included in written policy (may be included in local wellness policy or other district policies)	Upload school/district health and safety policy.

Topic Area: Nutrition Services

Criteria	Question	Level of Completion	People Who May Know	Evidence of Success	National Award Documentation
NS-1	Breakfast and lunch programs: Does the school offer school meals (both breakfast and lunch) programs that are fully accessible to all students?	 3 = Yes. 2 = Our school offers breakfast and lunch programs, but they are not fully accessible to all students. 1 = Our school offers only a lunch program, but there are plans to add a breakfast program. 0 = Our school offers only a lunch program and there are no plans to add a breakfast program, or the school does not offer a breakfast or a lunch program. 	Principal School food service manager District food service director National Advisor: Carol Chong Stephanie Roberts	Satisfactory administrative review by the state department valid for current three- year period.	Upload state department administrative review letter of approval conducted within current three-year period or Nutrition service department policy or procedure and include page number for section referenced.
NS-4	Variety of offerings in school meals: Do school meals* include a variety of offerings that meet the following criteria? Lunch Go beyond the National School Lunch Program requirements to offer one additional serving per week from any of the three vegetable subgroups (dark green, red and orange, dry beans and peas) Offer a different fruit every day of the week during lunch (100% fruit juice can be counted as a fruit only once per week) Offer fresh fruit at least one day per week	 3 = Yes, meets six to eight of these criteria for variety. 2 = Meets three to five of these criteria for variety. 1 = Meets one to two of these criteria for variety. 0 = Meets none of these criteria for variety. 	School food service manager District food service director National Advisor: Carol Chong Stephanie Roberts	Satisfactory administrative review by the state department valid for current three- year period.	Upload state department administrative review letter of approval conducted within current three- year period.

	 Offer foods that address the cultural practices of the student population Offer an alternative entrée option at least one time per week that is legume-based, reduced-fat dairy, or fish-based (including tuna) Offer at least three different types of whole grain-rich food items each week 				
	<u>Breakfast</u>				
	 □ Offer at least three different fruits and vegetables each week (100% fruit juice can be counted as a fruit only once per week) □ Offer fresh fruit at least one day per week *NOTE: A school meal is a set of foods that meets school meal program regulations. This does not include à la carte offerings. 				
NS-5 FR	Promote healthy food and beverage choices and school meals using marketing and merchandising techniques: Are healthy food and beverage choices promoted through the following techniques? A variety of mixed whole fruits are displayed in nice bowls or baskets (instead of stainless-steel pans) Fruit is offered in at least two locations on all service lines, one of which is right before each point of sale (POS) Vegetables are offered on all serving lines At least one vegetable is identified as the featured vegetable-of-the-day and is labeled with a creative, descriptive name at the point of selection Place pre-packed salads or salad bar if available in a high traffic area Label pre-packaged salads or salad bar choices with creative, descriptive names and display next to each choice	 3 = Yes, healthy food and beverage choices are promoted through ten or more of these techniques. 2 = Healthy food and beverage choices are promoted through five to nine of these techniques. 1 = Healthy food and beverage choices are promoted through one to four of these techniques. 0 = Healthy food and beverage choices are promoted through none of these techniques. 	School food service manager District food service director National Advisor: Carol Chong Stephanie Roberts	Satisfactory administrative review by the state department valid for current three- year period.	Upload state department administrative review letter of approval conducted within current three-year period or nutrition service department policy or procedure and include page number for section referenced.

		Self-serve salad bar tongs, scoops, and					
		containers are larger for vegetables and smaller for croutons, dressing, and					
		other non-produce items					
		White milk is displayed in front of other					
	_	beverages in all coolers					
		1% or non-fat white milk is identified as					
		the featured milk and is labeled with a					
		creative, descriptive name					
		Cafeteria staff politely prompt students					
		who do not have a full reimbursable					
		meal to select a fruit or vegetable					
		Signs show students how to make a					
		reimbursable meal on any service line					
		Alternative entrée options (salad bar, yogurt parfaits, etc.) are highlighted on					
		posters or signs within all service and					
		dining areas					
		Cafeteria staff smile and greet students					
		upon entering the service line and					
		continually throughout meal service					
		Students, teachers, or administrators					
		announce today's menu in daily					
		announcements					
		A monthly menu is posted in the main					
		office					
		Information about the benefits of school					
		meals is provided to teachers and administration at least annually					
		Brand, name, and decorate the					
		lunchroom in a way that reflects the					
		student body					
		Conduct a taste test of a new entrée at					
		least once a year					
NS-6	An	nual continuing education and	3 =	Yes, all food and	School food service	Satisfactory	Upload state department
		ining requirements for school		nutrition services staff	manager	administrative review	administrative review letter
	nut	trition services staff:		meet or exceed the	District food service	by the state department	of approval conducted
				annual continuing	director	valid for current three-	within current three-year
		all school nutrition program		education/training hours		year period.	period
	dire	ectors, managers, and staff meet or		required by the USDA's	National Advisor:	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	•
	exc	ceed the annual continuing		Professional Standards	Carol Chong		or
	edu	ucation/training hours required by the		requirements.	Stephanie Roberts		
		SDA's Professional Standards		•			nutrition service department
	rec	quirements*?		Most food and nutrition			professional standards
				services meet or			training tracking tool.
				exceed the annual			5 5

	Topics covered may include, but are not limited to, food safety and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP), nutrition standards updates in school meals, food sensitivities and allergies, meal counting and claiming, customer service, or food production techniques. *NOTE: USDA's Professional Standards requirements establish minimum professional standards for school nutrition personnel who manage and operate the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. (See https://professionalstandards.fns.usda.gov/conten t/professional-standards-information)	continuing education/training hours required by the USDA's Professional Standards requirements. 1 = Some food and nutrition services staff meet or exceed the annual continuing education/training hours required by the USDA's Professional Standards requirements. 0 = No, no food and nutrition services staff meet or exceed the annual continuing education/training hours required by the USDA's Professional Standards requirements.			
NS-7	Venues outside the cafeteria offer fruits and vegetables: Do venues outside the cafeteria (e.g., vending machines, school stores, canteens, snack bars, or snack or food carts) where food is available offer fruits and non-fried vegetables*? *NOTE: If your school does not have any food venue outside the cafeteria (e.g., vending machines, school stores, canteens, snack bars, or snack or food carts), select 3].	3 = Yes, most or all venues outside the cafeteria do. [NOTE: If your school does not have <u>any</u> food venue outside the cafeteria (e.g., vending machines, school stores, canteens, snack bars, or snack or food carts), select 3]. 2 = About half of the venues do. 1 = Fewer than half of the venues do. 0 = None of the venues do.	Principal School food service manager District food service director National Advisor: Carol Chong Stephanie Roberts	Nutrition service department should have a policy or procedure that states that the school incorporates fruits and vegetables in venues outside of the cafeteria.	Include page number for section referenced in local wellness policy or upload nutrition service department policy or procedure and include page number for section referenced.
NS-8	Collaboration between nutrition	3 = Yes, use three or more	Principal	Nutrition service department should	Include page number for section referenced in local

Do school nutrition services staff members use three or more of the following methods to collaborate with teachers to reinforce nutrition education lessons taught in the classroom? Participate in design and implementation of nutrition education programs Display educational and informational materials that reinforce classroom lessons Provide food for use in classroom nutrition education lessons Provide ideas for classroom nutrition education lessons Teach lessons or give presentations to students Tasting party in collaboration with classroom teacher Presentation on nutrition and food services to PTA/PTSA/PTO Sports nutrition – collaboration with coaches Classroom tour of cafeteria or meet and greet with School Nutrition staff	methods. 2 = Use two of these methods. 1 = Use one of these methods. 0 = Use none of these methods.	School wellness lead School food service manager District food service director National Advisor: Carol Chong Stephanie Roberts	have a policy or procedure to guide school staff on how to engage and provide nutrition education opportunities.	or upload nutrition service department policy or procedure and include page number for section referenced.
NS-11 Adequate time to eat school meals: Do students have at least 10 minutes to eat breakfast and at least 20 minutes to eat lunch, counting from the time they are seated? NOTE: The time that students are allotted for breakfast and/or lunch should be uninterrupted (i.e., designated to eating and not to completing make-up work or other academic assignments). If the school does not have a breakfast program, but does provide at least 20 minutes for lunch, select 3].	 3 = Yes. [NOTE: If the school does not have a breakfast program, but does provide at least 20 minutes for lunch, select 3]. 2 = Have adequate time for breakfast or lunch, but not for both. 1 = No, but there are plans to increase the time. 0 = No. 	Principal School food service manager District food service director National Advisor: Carol Chong Stephanie Roberts	Students have at least 10 minutes to eat breakfast and at least 20 minutes to eat lunch, counting from the time they are seated, and this is written in to the wellness policy.	Include page number for section referenced in local wellness policy or school level policy and include page number for section referenced.
NS-12 Farm to School activities:	3 = Yes, our school is implementing four to	Principal	Nutrition service department has a	Include page number for section referenced in local

le your school implementing any Form	five of those activities	School food comics	policy/procedure that	wollnoss policy
Is your school implementing any Farm to School activities? Local and/or regional products are incorporated into the school meal programs Messages about agriculture and nutrition are reinforced throughout the learning environment School hosts a fruit or vegetable garden School hosts field trips to local farms School utilizes promotions or special events, such as tastings, that highlight the local/regional products School hosts a farmer's market (student and parent involvement) Menu states local product(s) being served Local farmers/producers participate in career day activities	five of these activities. 2 = Our school is implementing two to three of these activities. 1 = Our school is implementing at least one of these activities. 0 = No, our school is not implementing any of these activities.	School food service manager District food service director School wellness lead National Advisor: Carol Chong Stephanie Roberts	policy/procedure that states they are incorporating farm to school activities into their menu selections. etc. or the school should provide evidence showing implementation of the farm to school activities.	or nutrition service department policy or procedure and include page number for section referenced or photos of activities that clearly depict specific farm to school activities.

Topic Area: Smart Snacks | There are no district-level questions for Smart Snacks

Topic Area: Health & Physical Education

Criteria	Question	Level of Completion	People Who May Know	Evidence of Success	National Award Documentation
HPE-3	Sequential physical education curriculum consistent with standards: Do all teachers of physical education use an age-appropriate, sequential physical education curriculum that is consistent with national or state standards for physical education (see national standards below) and the district's requirements for physical education? NOTE: Consider using CDC's Physical Education Curriculum Analysis Tool (PECAT), which is designed to help school districts and schools conduct a clear, complete, and consistent analysis of written physical education curriculum. PECAT results can help districts and schools enhance, develop, or select appropriate and effective physical education curricula for delivering high-quality physical education in schools. The PECAT assesses how consistent curricula are with national standards and can assist users in determining if the curriculum being analyzed is sequential. NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR PHYSICAL EDUCATION A physically literate individual: 1. Demonstrates competency in a variety of motor skills and movement patterns. 2. Applies knowledge of concepts, principles, strategies, and tactics related to movement and performance. 3. Demonstrates the knowledge and skills to achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical activity and fitness. 4. Exhibits responsible personal and social behavior that respects self and others. 5. Recognizes the value of physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and/or social interaction.	 3 = Yes. 2 = Some use a sequential physical education curriculum, and it is consistent with state or national standards and the district's requirements for physical education. 1 = Some use a sequential physical education curriculum, but it is not consistent with state or national standards or the district's requirements for physical education. 0 = None do, or the curriculum is not sequential, or there is no physical education curriculum. 	Principal Physical education teacher District curriculum specialist National Advisors: Lisa Perry	Provide goals, objectives, and expected outcomes for physical education or a chart with scope and sequence for instruction or written physical education curriculum. If the district does not have a curriculum, the school may create its own.	Upload a district or school level scope and sequence or curriculum map aligned to state or national standards. Note: Because the scope and sequence or curriculum map needs to reflect what is actually taught at your school over the course of the year, the state or national standard documents do NOT meet this requirement.

Criteria	Question	Level of Completion	People Who May Know	Evidence of Success	National Award Documentation
	National Standards & Grade-Level Outcomes for K-12 Physical Education (SHAPE America & Human Kinetics, 2014)				
HPE-5	Professional development for physical education teachers: Are all teachers (i.e. physical education teachers, classroom teachers) required to participate at least once a year in professional development in physical education?	3 = Yes, all do. 2 = Most do. 1 = Some do. 0 = None do, or no one teaches physical education.	Principal Physical education teacher National Advisors: Lisa Perry	Verify that all teachers who deliver physical education instruction have attended at least one professional development event that focused on physical education best practices. Note: This does not include CPR, First Aid or other related trainings.	Upload the list of teachers attending and the agenda for the physical education training. Note: This does not include CPR, First Aid or other related trainings.
HPE-6	Information and materials for physical education teachers: Are all teachers of physical education provided with the following information and materials to assist in delivering physical education? Goals, objectives, and expected outcomes for physical education A chart scope and sequence for instruction A written physical education curriculum A plan for assessing student performance Physical activity monitoring devices, such as pedometers, heart rate monitors Internet resources, such as SHAPE America online tools and resources or PE Central The Presidential Youth Fitness Program Protocols to assess or evaluate student performance in physical	 3 = Yes, all teachers of physical education are provided with at least eight kinds of these materials. 2 = Teachers of physical education are provided with four to seven kinds of these materials. 1 = Teachers of physical education are provided with one to three kinds of these materials. 0 = Teachers of physical education are not provided with these kinds of materials. 	Principal Physical education teacher National Advisors: Lisa Perry	Verify that physical education teachers have received information and materials regarding at least 8 of the items listed.	No documentation required.

Criteria	Question	Level of Completion	People Who May Know	Evidence of Success	National Award Documentation
HPE-7	education Learning activities that increase the amount of class time students are engaged in moderate-to-vigorous physical activity Learning activities that actively engage students with long-term physical, medical, or cognitive disabilities in physical education Licensed physical education teachers: Are all physical education classes taught by licensed teachers who are certified or endorsed to teach physical education?	3 = Yes, all are. 2 = Most classes are. 1 = Some classes are. 0 = No classes are, or there are no physical education classes.	Principal Physical education teacher National Advisors: Lisa Perry	Verify that licensed teachers with state certifications and/or endorsements in physical education deliver all physical education instruction. Information should include license number, endorsement area and expiration date for all teachers who deliver physical education instruction.	Upload license information including teacher name, license number, endorsement area and expiration date for all teachers who deliver physical education instruction. If information from the state department of education website provides licensing details, that may be submitted.

Topic Area: Physical Activity

Criteria	Question	Level of Completion	People Who May Know	Evidence of Success	National Award Documentation
PA-1 FR	Recess (elementary only): Are students provided at least 20 minutes of recess during each school day, and do teachers or recess monitors encourage students to be active? NOTE: Recess should complement physical education class, not substitute for it.	 3 = Yes, recess is provided for at least 20 minutes each day, and teachers or recess monitors encourage students to be active. 2 = Recess is provided for at least 20 minutes each day, but teachers or recess monitors do not encourage students to be active. 1 = Recess is provided each day but for less than 20 minutes, or it is provided on some days but not on all days. 0 = Recess is not provided on any day. 	Principal School wellness lead National Advisors: Lisa Perry	All classroom teachers have recess scheduled for 20 minutes each day of the week.	Upload a master schedule showing 20 minutes of daily recess for all elementary students. If your schedule combines lunch and recess, please indicate how much of that time is recess.
PA-5	Professional development for classroom teachers: Are classroom teachers required to participate at least once a year in professional development on promoting and integrating physical activity in the classroom?	3 = Yes, all do. 2 = Most do. 1 = Some do. 0 = None do, or professiona I development on physical activity is not available to classroom teachers.	Principal School wellness lead National Advisors: Lisa Perry	Document training dates, topics and teachers attending. Training can be provided by district, physical education teachers, trained school staff and/or online opportunities.	Upload agenda and list of teachers that attended training on integrating physical activity in the classroom.
PA-6	Prohibit using physical activity as punishment: Does your school prohibit using physical activity and withholding physical education class as punishment? Is this prohibition	3 = Yes, using physical activity as punishment and withholding physical education class as punishment are prohibited, and both prohibitions are	Principal School wellness lead National Advisors: Lisa Perry	Staff/student/parent handbook must clearly state that the school prohibits using physical activity and withholding physical education class as punishment.	Upload local wellness policy and include page number for section referenced or

Criteria	Question	Level of Completion	People Who May Know	Evidence of Success	National Award Documentation
PA-7	NOTE: Please do not consider issues related to participation in interscholastic sports programs when answering this question. Prohibit withholding recess as punishment (elementary only): Does your school prohibit withholding recess as punishment? Is this prohibition consistently followed?	consistently followed. 2 = One of these practices is prohibited, and this prohibition is consistently followed. 1 = One or both of these practices is prohibited, but this prohibition is not consistently followed. 0 = Neither practice is prohibited. 3 = Yes, withholding recess as punishment is a written policy and this prohibition is consistently followed. 2 = Yes, withholding recess as punishment is discouraged and this prohibition is consistently followed. 1 = Yes, withholding recess as punishment is discouraged but this prohibition is not consistently followed. 0 = This practice is not prohibited.	Principal School wellness lead National Advisors: Lisa Perry	Staff/student/parent handbook must clearly state that the school prohibits withholding recess as punishment.	a screenshot from district or school website that provides the statement of prohibition. NOTE: Documentation provided should clearly state using physical activity as punishment and withholding physical education class as punishment are prohibited Upload local wellness policy and include page number for section referenced or a screenshot from district or school website that provides the statement of prohibition.
PA-8	Access to physical activity facilities outside school hours: Are indoor and outdoor physical activity facilities open to students, their families, and the community	3 = Yes, both indoor and outdoor facilities are available outside of school hours. 2 = Indoor or outdoor facilities, but not both ,	Principal School wellness lead Custodian Before/after school staff	School makes facilities available to students and their families and the community outside of school hours.	Upload the written joint- use or shared-use agreement that provides access to physical activities outside school hours

Criteri	Question	Level of Completion	People Who May Know	Evidence of Success	National Award Documentation
	outside school hours? NOTE: Making facilities open and available to students, their families, and the community outside of school hours can be conducted as a regular practice or through a formal, written joint or shared use agreement. A joint use or shared use agreement is a formal agreement between a school or school district and another public or private entity to jointly use either school facilities or community facilities to share costs and responsibilities.	are available outside of school hours. 1 = Indoor or outdoor facilities are available, but the hours of availability are very limited. 0 = No, neither indoor nor outdoor facilities are available.	National Advisors: Lisa Perry		or communication sent to families and students that promotes the use of indoor and outdoor facilities available outside school hours.

Topic Area: Employee Wellness

		of Completion	People Who May Know	Evidence of Success	National Award Documentation
EW-1	Health assessments for staff members: Does your school or district offer staff members accessible and free or low-cost health assessments at least once a year?	 3 = Yes, health assessments are offered, and all staff members find them accessible and free or low-cost. 2 = Health assessments are offered, but some staff members find them inaccessible or high-cost. 1 = Health assessments are offered, but many staff members find them inaccessible or high-cost. 0 = Health assessments are not offered at least once a year. 	Principal School wellness lead School nurse Benefits manager National Advisor: Lisa Perry	Verify that the school or district offers health assessments to staff members	Upload communications that promote the free or low-cost annual health assessments. Examples may include emails to staff, flyers for health assessment events, or screenshots of district or school webpage that promote the health assessment.