SAMPLE SCHOOL WELLNESS POLICY: HEALTHY FUNDRAISING

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Introduction

As society becomes more aware and concerned about the health of children, communities are turning to schools for solutions. Schools are one of the most powerful influences in the lives of students. Having a healthy fundraising policy can create and promote healthy habits and behaviors in children. Schools with a healthy nutrition environment foster improved student health. The Minnesota School Boards Association (“MSBA”) has a model school wellness policy that many school districts use as a guide when developing their individual school wellness policy. The MSBA model policy does not address healthy fundraising. Therefore, the Public Health Law Center developed the following, more detailed language to insert into a school wellness policy.

Healthy Fundraising Sample Language

School-sponsored fundraising will be supportive of healthy eating and physical activity by emphasizing the sale of healthy food items and by promoting active events. The superintendent, with the assistance of the School Health Council [aka School Wellness Committee], will create and promote a list of non-food fundraising activities, specifically those involving promoting physical activity. Schools will be required to use the non-food activities identified in the list in at least 50% of fundraising activities.

Other Policy Options

In the majority of the school districts around Minnesota, the superintendent has the power to implement and enforce existing school board policy. Therefore, a superintendent can issue protocols/procedures/guidelines to implement the school wellness policy. The above language can be used by the superintendent to implement the overall goals of most school wellness policies. For an example, please refer to our School Health Council Policy Reference Guide, located at www.publichealthlawcenter.org.

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