

Wellness Policy Assessment Tool and Report Template

LEA / District Name: Howard Gardner MI Charter Sch

Date Completed: 06/30/2025

Name(s) of Reviewer(s): Joseph Ross, Patricia Biko

School Name (if applicable): Howard Gardner Multiple Intelligence CS

Select grades:

PK K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Included in the written policy?

Yes No

Implemented in the school building(s)?

Fully in Place Partially in Place Not in Place

Public Involvement, Notification, and Assessment

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | We have LEA official(s)/designee(s) in charge of wellness policy compliance.
Name(s)/Title(s): Dawn Miller/Food Service Manager & Patty Biko/Operations | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | We complete an assessment of the local school wellness policy at least every three years ("triennial assessment").
Triennial assessment results are made available to the public in an easily accessible manner.
Website address and/or description of how to access copy: | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | At least every three years we use the results of the triennial assessment to update or modify the wellness policy as needed.
The LEA informs and updates the public about the contents, updates, and implementation of the wellness policy at least annually and the policy is accessible to the public.
Website address for policy and/or description of how to access copy: | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | We retain records as required by federal regulations including:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The written school wellness policy,
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Documentation of making the wellness policy publicly available,
<input type="checkbox"/> Documentation of outreach efforts inviting stakeholders to participate in the wellness committee / wellness policy process, and
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copy of triennial assessment and documentation of reporting results to public.
The LEA utilizes a wellness committee that includes these community stakeholders in the development, implementation, review, and update of the wellness policy: | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Administrators <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food service staff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School health professionals
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parents <input type="checkbox"/> School board members <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PE teachers <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public
Other stakeholders (describe): | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Notes on public involvement, notification, and assessment:

Nutrition Education*

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Nutrition education is provided within PDE's sequential, comprehensive health education standards. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | We teach, model, encourage, and support healthy eating through nutrition education. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

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Yes	No		Fully in Place	Partially in Place	Not in Place
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We provide all students with knowledge and skills for healthy lives via nutrition education.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We offer age-appropriate nutrition education and activities to students in: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elementary School <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Middle School <input type="checkbox"/> High School	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Our nutrition education curriculum teaches behavior-focused skills such as menu-planning, reading nutrition labels, and media awareness.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	School food service and nutrition education classes work together to create a learning laboratory.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	In addition to meeting academic standards for nutrition education, we integrate nutrition education into a variety of subjects (e.g., math, science, language arts).	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We reinforce lifelong lifestyle balance by linking nutrition and physical activity.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Staff providing nutrition education receive standards-based training and professional development.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We engage and involve families and the community in nutrition education efforts.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
		Other goal (describe):			

Notes on goals for nutrition education:

Nutrition Promotion*

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We use evidence-based techniques and nutrition messages in school and encourage participation in school meal programs.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We participate in Farm to School activities such as having a school garden, taste-testing local products, incorporating local foods into school meals, and educating students in the classroom and on field trips about local agriculture.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We cooperate with community agencies and organizations to provide opportunities for student projects related to nutrition.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We implement behavioral economics techniques in the cafeteria to encourage consumption of whole grains, fruits, and vegetables and to decrease plate waste.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We display and disseminate consistent nutrition messages in schools, classrooms, cafeterias, homes, community, and media.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Our staff model healthy eating in front of students and avoid using unhealthy foods in classroom lesson plans.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We offer health and nutrition resources to parents to help them provide healthy meals for their children.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
		Other goal (describe):			

Notes on goals for nutrition promotion:

Physical Activity*

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We provide a variety of developmentally appropriate opportunities for physical activity during the school day for all students.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We contribute to the effort to provide students daily opportunities to accumulate at least sixty minutes of age-appropriate physical activity daily as recommended by the CDC.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

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<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	In addition to planned physical education, we offer activities such as indoor and outdoor recess, before and after school programs, intramurals, interscholastic athletics, and clubs to meet the needs and interests of our students.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We maintain a physical and social environment that encourages safe and enjoyable activity for all students.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We discourage extended periods of inactivity (two hours or more) for students.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We provide physical activity breaks in the classroom.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We offer before and/or after-school programs that include physical activity for participating children.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We partner with parents/guardians and community members and organizations (e.g., YMCA, Boys & Girls Clubs, local parks, hospitals, etc.) to offer programs supporting lifelong physical activity.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We do not use physical activity as a punishment (e.g., running laps).	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We do not withhold physical activity as a punishment (e.g., taking away recess).	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We encourage walking and biking to school.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We encourage students and families to use our physical activity facilities, such as playgrounds and ball fields, outside of school hours in accordance with school rules.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
		Other goal (describe):			

Notes on goals for physical activity:

Physical Education (PE)

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We implement a PE program consistent with state academic standards. All students participate in PE.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PE instruction promotes skills and knowledge necessary for lifelong physical activity.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	PE classes provide the means for students to learn, practice, and be assessed on developmentally appropriate skills.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Our curriculum promotes both team and individual activities.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We offer a comprehensive PE course of study with planned instruction time for students to meet standards at the proficient level.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We use a local assessment system to track student progress on state standards. Students are moderately to vigorously active as much time as possible during PE class. Accommodations are made in class for documented medical conditions and disabilities.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We provide safe and adequate equipment, facilities, and resources for PE class.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Certified health and PE teachers teach our classes.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We provide professional development for PE staff.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	PE classes have a teacher-student ratio similar to other courses for safe and effective instruction.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We do not use or withhold physical activity as a form of punishment in PE class.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
		Other goal (describe):			

Notes on goals for physical education:

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Yes No

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Fully in Place Partially in Place Not in Place

Other School-Based Wellness Activities*

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Free drinking water is available and accessible to students during meal periods and throughout the school day.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	School nutrition staff meet local hiring criteria and in compliance with federal regulations.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We provide continuing education to school nutrition staff as required by federal regulations.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We provide adequate space for eating and serving school meals.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We provide a safe and clean meal environment for students.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We offer students enough time to eat (10 minutes sit down time for breakfast; 20 minutes sit down time for lunch) and schedule meal periods at appropriate hours.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We implement alternate school breakfast service models to increase participation, such as "grab & go," breakfast served in the classroom, and breakfast after first period.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Students have access to hand washing or sanitizing before meals.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Only authorized staff have access to the food service operation.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We provide the nutrition content of school meals to the school community.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We include students/parents in menu selections through taste-testing and surveys.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We utilize outside funding and programs to enhance school wellness.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We train all staff on the components of the school wellness policy.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	School based activities are planned with wellness policy goals in mind.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Fundraising projects submitted for approval are supportive of healthy eating and student wellness.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We encourage administrators, teachers, school nutrition professionals, students, parents/guardians, and community members to serve as positive role models through district programs, communications, and outreach.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	We communicate information to parents/guardians to support their efforts to provide a healthy diet and daily physical activity for their children.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Indoor air quality is in accordance with our healthy learning environment program and applicable laws and regulations.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other goal (describe):					

Notes on goals for other school-based activities:

Nutrition Guidelines for All Foods and Beverages at School

<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We consider promoting student health and reducing obesity when offering foods and beverages to students at school.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Foods and beverages provided through the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs comply with federal meal standards.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We offer healthy food and beverage options at school-sponsored events, such as dances and sporting events.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Foods and beverages outside of the school meal, which are sold to students at school during the school day, meet or exceed the established federal competitive food standards (USDA Smart Snacks in School). Venues include vending, school stores, non-exempt fundraisers, and a la carte items.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We limit the number of food fundraisers at school and have procedures in place for requesting a fundraiser exemption (i.e., selling foods that do not meet Smart Snacks) in accordance with limits set by PDE.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We have local standards in our written policy for foods and beverages offered for free to students at school, including food rewards, items offered at classroom parties and celebrations, and foods/beverages provided to the class as shared classroom snacks.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	We provide a list of nonfood ideas and healthy food/beverage alternatives to staff and parents/guardians.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Only foods and beverages that meet or exceed federal nutrition standards (USDA Smart Snacks in School) are permitted to be marketed or promoted to students during the school day. Examples: posters, vending machines, menu boards, cups for beverage dispensing, coolers, trash cans.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Notes on nutrition guidelines for foods and beverages at school:

*** At least one goal for these categories must be included in the written policy per federal regulations.**

Report on the progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy (REQUIRED):

1. Enrichment Programming and Wellness Opportunities

- The school has integrated new enrichment programs focused on nutrition education, physical activity, and overall student well-being.
- Nutrition education has been expanded through classroom instruction, hands-on activities, and school-wide initiatives to promote healthy eating habits.
- Opportunities for wellness-focused learning have been increased, including partnerships with local organizations to bring in guest speakers and special events.

2. Highmark Foundation Grant for Indoor Recess

- The school successfully secured a Highmark Foundation grant to support indoor recess when outdoor conditions are unfavorable.
- Indoor recess activities are age-appropriate and tailored for each grade level, ensuring that students remain active even when they cannot go outside.
- New equipment and structured play activities have been introduced to keep students engaged and physically active during recess.

3. Staff Wellness Initiatives

- The school has invested in the Building Together Employee Value Initiative, aimed at improving staff engagement, morale, and workplace satisfaction.
- The school implemented the Rise and Thrive Wellness Program, which focuses on promoting overall health and well-being among staff members.
- Team-building events have been introduced to strengthen workplace relationships and encourage a supportive school environment.

4. Health Insurance and Employee Support Resources

- Additional resources have been provided to staff members to increase awareness of available health services through the school's health insurance plan.