

Minutes of the Student Nutrition and Physical Activity Committee meeting
April 24, 2007

Present

Committee members: Colleen Kavanagh, Ed Wilkins, Libby Albert, Jan Link, Patricia Gray, Ericka Lovrin, Laura Brainin-Rodriguez, Janet Wojcicki, Caroline Grannan, Meyla Ruwin (co-chair), Dana Woldow (co-chair)

Guests: Loretta Lee, Karen Gehrman, Eddy Jara

The meeting was called to order at 4:20. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as read.

Meyla distributed copies of the proposed changes to the Wellness Policy, as recommended by the Wellness Policy subcommittee. Most of the changes involved updates of organizations or district offices which have acquired new names. One major change is to clarify the wording on a vending machine regulation, to make clear that CDPs, and all schools with elementary students, including K-8s, may not have vending machines in any area accessible to students.

The changes recommended by the school food subcommittee, making clear that the CDP is expected to comply with the Wellness Policy, and that food brought in by parents or donated for student parties should meet the district's nutrition standard, were also incorporated into the final version of the policy. A motion was made to approve all changes; motion seconded and passed.

Eddy Jara, a graduate student at UC Berkeley who is doing a project at SF Community School (K-8), discussed his work with students. Among the students' concerns about their own health and nutrition were lack of availability of nutritional information in fast food restaurants, lack of opportunities and time in their day to get sufficient exercise, and complaints about the taste or texture of some school meals. He also mentioned that other school meals are favorites with the students. Dana explained why the insufficient funding for school meals, combined with high labor costs and no money available for replacement or repair of aging kitchen facilities means that frozen entrees are here to stay. However, if there are specific meals which the students think taste bad, those items may need to be reformulated. Students can send feedback on specific meals using the feedback form at www.sfusdfood.org. She also mentioned the salad bar pilots, and that if successful, they are the best chance of getting both more food and also more fresh vegetables and fruits into the lunch program.

The meeting was adjourned at 5pm. This committee will resume meeting in the fall.