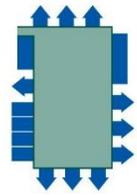


# Village Green Virtual



**The Village Green**  
Virtual Public Charter School

LEA Health and Wellness Policy

Adopted October 2013

## **Health and Wellness**

VGV is committed to providing students with a learning environment that supports and promotes wellness, including good nutrition and an active lifestyle. There is a well-documented positive relationship between wellness, a full stomach, and the capacity of students to develop and learn. The school environment shall promote health and wellness and to positively influence students' beliefs and habits. School staff may be expected to model healthy eating and physical activity as a valuable part of daily life.

The items most commonly sold from school vending machines, school stores, and snack bars include low-nutrition foods and beverages such as soda, sports drinks, imitation fruit juices, chips, candy, cookies, and snack cakes. These items are not part of our school culture or routines.

Therefore, it is the policy of VGV that:

The School District will engage students, parents, teachers, food service professionals, health professionals, and other interested community members in developing, implementing, monitoring, and reviewing District-wide nutrition policies. Our Health and Wellness Committee is the body which ensures this takes place.

Healthy foods will be provided that reflect diverse culture, lifestyles, and preferences.

Foods and beverages sold or served in the school as part of the food service program will meet the nutritional recommendations of the U.S. Dietary Guidelines for Americans and the USDA.

All foods and beverages made available in the school will adhere to food safety and security guidelines as required by the USDA and the Rhode Island Department of Health.

Schools will provide nutrition education to foster lifelong habits of healthy eating and physical activity and will establish links between health education and school meal programs, and with related community services. This will follow the Rhode Island Public Law Chapter 06-231, "An Act Relating to School Committees and Superintendents on Healthier Beverages and Foods."

Nutrition education will be integrated into curricular areas healthy lifestyles and personal fitness.

The school environment is safe, comfortable, pleasing, and allows ample time and space for eating meals.

Drinking water is available for students at meals.

This policy is designed to meet the requirements of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 (Section 204 of Public Law 108-265).

## **Students with Food Allergies**

In accordance with Rhode Island State Law (RI 2008 Public Law, Chapter 08-086), the following policy and procedure is set by VGV to protect students with life-threatening food allergies.

1. VGV will have signs posted in a conspicuous place at every point of entry and in the cafeteria, that there are students with food allergies.

2. All identified students will have an Individual Health Care Plan (IHCP) and an Emergency Health Care Plan (EHCP), also known as the Allergy Action Plan, developed by the School Nurse Teacher and the student's health care provider as mandated by State law.
3. If appropriate, students will always carry or have in school their own Epi-Pens.
4. All cafeteria personnel will be given a list of students with their food allergy and prescribed treatment of such, if any by the School Nurse Teacher.
5. Faculty will also be advised by the School Nurse Teacher if they have students with food allergies and their treatment, if any.
6. All schools will have a Food Allergen-Free table in the cafeteria.
7. Outside food brought in to share is prohibited to prevent allergic reactions and to prevent contraction of food borne illnesses. The specific prohibition is for cooked food from a student's home to be shared with classmates. Store-bought food may be brought in provided it is properly labeled and has an expiration date. The ban on outside food does not apply to faculty parties or gatherings. Any questions regarding "outside" food should be brought to the School Nurse Teacher. Parents and families are encouraged to "brown bag it" as they deem appropriate.
8. A Parent Information letter along with the policy notice will be sent home with all students every year. This policy follows all federal, state and local laws and regulations relating to disabilities, school health, and privacy including but not limited to ADA, IDEA, Section 504, FERPA and R16-21-SCHO.