

BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES



Utilizing your school's Parent-Teacher Association or Organization's collective effort is a powerful way to support a healthier school environment. Your school's organization has the ability to promote wellness by organizing health-focused events, encouraging nutritious choices, and fostering active family engagement. Your participation can help shape a school culture that prioritizes student well-being, strengthens community connections, and makes a lasting impact on the health and success of all students.

Examples of actions PTA and PTOs can do to spread awareness and support healthy initiatives in your school:



 Host Family Wellness Nights – Organize events focused on nutrition, fitness, mental health, or mindfulness with interactive activities, speakers, or demonstrations.



2. Create and/or Distribute Health Newsletters – Share seasonal health tips, school wellness updates, and community resources in print or digital formats.



3. Promote Healthy Fundraising
Alternatives— Replace candy or junk
food sales with healthier options like
fruit baskets, walk-a-thons, or fitness
challenges.



4. Collaborate on School Wellness Committees – Serve on or help form committees that guide school wellness policies and programs.



5. Promote Healthy Snack Choices or Initiate Water Bottle Drives – Provide access to nutritious snacks suggestions and encourage hydration throughout the school day.



6. Support Indoor and Outdoor Recess
Activities – Help supply equipment or create activity kits to keep students active during recess, especially during bad weather.



7. Create Awareness Displays or Bulletin Boards – Set up engaging wellness-themed displays in school hallways, front offices, or common areas.



8. Organize Monthly Wellness Challenges – Encourage healthy habits by coordinating simple, school-wide challenges—such as drinking more water, getting daily physical activity, or practicing gratitude—with incentives or recognition for participation.



9. Share Resources on Social Media or School Platforms – Use PTA/PTO communication channels to post or share tips, videos, or articles about health and wellness topics.



10. **Include Community Health Partners** – Collaborate with local organizations or professionals to provide presentations, screenings, or resources at school events.

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Below is a library of available resources that PTA/PTOs can develop or distribute as you see fit.

Healthy Eating Resources to promote balanced eating habits and informed food choices.

- BHC Healthy Snacks
- BHC Healthy Snack List
- BHC Celebrate Healthily
- <u>Healthy Fundraiser Tip Sheet</u>
- BHC Involve Kids in the Kitchen
- BHC Understanding Food Labels
- · BHC Health Benefits of Gardening





Healthy Bodies Resources to encourage active lifestyles.

- BHC Move More
- BHC How to be an Active Role Model
- BHC Plan a Family Physical Activity Night

Monthly Family Physical Activity Challenges

- Student 30-Day Mileage Challenge
- Student 30-Day "Unplug and Play" Challenge
- Marathon Kids Activity challenge

Healthy Minds Resources to support emotional regulation, self-awareness, and stress reduction for students and families.

- BHC Mindfulness Cards
- BHC Breathing Ball Activities
- Lazy 8 Breathing Exercise
- BHC The Feelings Wheel
- BHC Coping with Childhood Stress
- BHC Plan a Family Community Night –
 Strengthening Connections





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Additional Resources:



Healthy Hygiene Resources to increase understanding of common health issues and promote preventive care.

- BHC Importance of Handwashing
- BHC Oral Hygiene

Healthy Lifestyles Resources to support healthy routines at home that affect focus and energy at school.

- BHC Healthy Sleep Habits
- <u>Sleep Diary</u> for young students to use at home
- BHC Screen Time
- Student 30-Day "Unplug and Play"
 Challenge





Healthy Connections Resources to foster belonging and strengthening relationships.

- BHC Connecting Families with BHC Resources
- BHC Nature Based Bingo
- BHC Make the Most of Mealtime
- BHC The Magic of Mealtime
- BHC Healthy Family Communication
- BHC Plan a Family Community Night Strengthening Connections