**State Education Reform Legislation:**

[**Senate Bill 08-212**](http://highered.colorado.gov/Academics/CAP4K/sb08-212.pdf)is known as “Colorado’s Achievement Plan for Kids” or CAP4K and was signed into law May 2008. CAP4K is a landmark education reform initiative that creates an aligned preschool to postsecondary educational system. The law established **new standards and new assessments** that enable all students to graduate high school with the skills and the knowledge to succeed in today’s 21st century, competitive global economy.

* For school health and wellness, SB 08-212 created, for the first time, **Comprehensive Health Education and updated Physical Education Content Standards** for Colorado.

[**Senate Bill 09-163**](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdegen/downloads/SB163/SenateBill163.pdf)**,** the Education Accountability Act of 2009, aligned the school and district accountability system into single system. The law modernizes reporting of state, district and school performance information and established a new system of support and intervention, including for turnaround schools and districts.

* For school health and wellness, SB09-163 required, for the first time, the **reporting of school health and wellness indicators as a measurement of school performance**. The law requires schools to post a link to their district wellness policy and report on specific wellness services, including:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Recess (for elementary schools)
 | * Licensed school nurse
 |
| * Existence of a wellness committee or team
 | * School-based health centers
 |
| * Required health education and P.E. classes
 | * Breakfast participation
 |

[**Senate Bill 10-191**](http://ssl.csg.org/dockets/2012cycle/2012volume/2012volumeoriginalbills/2032a01coteachereffective.pdf), the **Ensuring Quality Instruction Through Educator Effectiveness** Act, changed the way both principals and teachers will be evaluated in Colorado with the ultimate goal of continuously supporting educators' professional growth and, in turn, accelerating student results. The new evaluation requirements include opportunities for reflection, review, professional development and growth.

* For school health and wellness, the evaluation will be based on statewide **Quality Standards** defining what it means to be an effective teacher or principal which include establishing **safe, inclusive and respectful learning environment** for a diverse population of students and demonstrating **school culture and equity leadership**.
* Also, Other Licensed Personnel, including School Nurses, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Audiologists, Counselors, Psychologists, Social Workers and Speech-Language Pathologists will be included in the state evaluation system and will elevate the contribution these personnel make to improving student outcomes.

[**House Bill 12-1345**](http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2012a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/CD3C8673214EEF8C872579CD00625FE2?open&file=1345_enr.pdf), **Section 21** (page 23), the "Fair Discipline in Schools Act,” gives schools discretion over suspensions and **eliminates mandatory expulsions** (except in cases involving firearms), allowing schools to set up graduated discipline systems that assigned punishments commensurate with offenses. The bill also ensures more training for school officials to better deal with discipline issues and streamlines the reporting of disaggregated data to better understand how discipline policies are applied and to whom.

* For school health and wellness, instituting fair discipline practices in schools improves student engagement and is a crucial component to ensuring all students have an equal opportunity to learn.

**State School Health and Wellness Legislation**

[**House Bill 07-1292**](http://www.cde.state.co.us/healthandwellness/download/1292_enr.pdf), the **Healthy Youth Act**, calls for the adoption of science-based, culturally relevant and sensitive and medically accurate content standards for the instruction regarding human sexuality that also fosters a positive self-concept. Click [here](http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite?blobcol=urldata&blobheader=application%2Fpdf&blobheadername1=Content-Disposition&blobheadername2=MDT-Type&blobheadervalue1=inline%3B+filename%3D343%2F102%2FQuickOverviewHB_07_1292.pdf&blobheadervalue2=abinary%3B+charset%3DUTF-8&blobkey=id&blobtable=MungoBlobs&blobwhere=1251683941553&ssbinary=true) for a fact sheet.

[**House Bill 11-1254**](http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2011a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/C41FA88143FD6AE687257801006047CF?open&file=1254_enr.pdf)**,** Colorado’s **Anti-Bullying law**, prohibits discrimination against any student for any reason including on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services. The law also defines bullying to **include cyberbullying** and **updates reporting requirements**. Click [here](http://colegacy.org/resource/colorado%E2%80%99s-2011-bullying-prevention-law-what-every-school-and-district-needs-to-know/) for a fact sheet.

[**House Bill 11-1069**](http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2011a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/9CF56533FEFE87598725780800800FBF?open&file=1069ed_01.pdf)**,** Colorado’s **Physical Activity law**, requires all public elementary schools to provide students with a minimum of 600 minutes of physical activity a month (30 minutes per school day). Each school district board of education and institute charter school must **adopt a physical activity policy** that ensures each elementary student’s schedule satisfies the law’s requirements for a minimum amount of opportunity to engage in physical activity. Click [here](http://www.coloradopublichealth.org/documents/HB11-1069FAQs.pdf) for a fact sheet.

[**Senate Bill 12-068**](http://www.state.co.us/gov_dir/leg_dir/olls/sl2012a/sl_256.pdf), prohibits public schools from making foods with industrial **trans-fats** available to students. This includes all food and beverages made available to a student on school grounds during each school day and extended school day, including:

* In a school cafeteria
* School store
* Vending machine
* Other food service entity existing upon school grounds

The law excludes the school meal program that is part of the US Department of Agriculture and school fundraisers.

[**Senate Bill 08-129**](http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2008a/csl.nsf/billcontainers/921B1DCE9AA73C76872573C9007A23C8/%24FILE/129_enr.pdf)and a subsequent rule required specific beverage standards for vending machines, a la carte purchases and school stores. The new standards prohibited all sugar based sodas and other drinks and diet soda in public schools.

[**Senate Bill 04-103**](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/download/pdf/SB04-103.pdf) encouraged 50 percent of public school vending machine products to be healthy.

**Federal School Health and Wellness Legislation**

In 2004, the federal reauthorization of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act included a requirement that all school districts establish a local wellness policy as a condition of receiving federal meal reimbursement.

In 2010, the federal reauthorization of the nutrition act, now called the **Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act** ([**Public Law 111-296**](http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/legislation/cnr_2010.htm)) requires schools participating in the USDA’s School Meal Programs to:

* Meet new nutrition standards for breakfast and lunch meal patterns
* Strengthen local wellness policies by adding rules for public input, transparency, and implementation.

CDE Resources for [Meal Pattern](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/download/Misc/NMPT/comparison.pdf) changes. CDE Resources for [Wellness Policy](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdenutritran/download/pdf/lwpcomparisonchart.pdf) update.