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**KAMU**  
**Taking Calls**  
**for Free**  
**Dental Care**

New Federal funding is available for dental services through the Kansas Association for

## School Vending Machine Policy



On May 12, the Kansas State Board of Education adopted a policy that required all accredited K-12 schools in Kansas to implement the Advanced level of the Kansas School Wellness Policy Model Guidelines for foods and beverages sold in vending machines by August 1, 2010, and to implement the Exemplary level of the guidelines by August 1, 2011.

(See the May 19 Weekly Wednesday Update for details.  
<http://www.oralhealthkansas.org/pdf/WWU/5-19-2010.pdf>)

During the State Board's June meeting, some Board members attempted and failed to overturn that policy.

The State Board met this week and received feedback from stakeholders regarding the policy. Several, including Oral Health Kansas, thanked the Board for their leadership on creating a healthy learning environment for Kansas schoolchildren. Others asked the Board to re-consider or delay implementation of the policy. The primary arguments against the policy centered on potential revenue loss to schools, which assumes that schools will see lower vending machine sales, and on a desire for the beverage industry to be able to sell diet sodas in the school vending machines.

One school superintendent thanked the Board of Education for creating consistency for the children in his district. He said now all children in his district will see only healthy food and beverage options at breakfast, lunch and in the vending machines.

While no action was taken to attempt again to overturn or delay

the Medically Underserved.

For more information [click here](#).



## Health Tips by Text for Mothers

The Georgia Department of Community Health is offering pregnant women and new mothers a chance to receive weekly text messages with health tips for pregnancy and raising infants.

The free program is called "text4baby" and includes three text messages per week timed to a woman's due date or the birth date of the baby.

**For more information [click here](#) AND [click here](#).**

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implementation of the policy this week, Board Chair Janet Waugh indicated the issue may come up again at another monthly State Board of Education meeting. **Please take time now to contact your State Board of Education member to thank the Board for its leadership.** The Board's adoption of the vending machine policy shows national leadership by setting the stage for Kansas to be the place where schoolchildren have access to healthful foods during the school day. The policy is an important symbol of the Board's belief in the need to help children stay healthy as they learn.

Board member contact information can be found at: <http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=112>

## NEW Section on the OHK Website

OHK has added a new populations section to our website. This section is for school aged students and it discusses how schools are ideal settings for providing students with oral health knowledge and skills, along with other health practices such as hand washing, exercise, and safety practices. Quality oral health for all children and adolescents is imperative if they are going to reach their levels of optimum success in school and in life. When children's oral health suffers, so does their ability to learn and to interact with others. These are both essential to build a foundation for a quality life as an adult.

Oral Health Kansas, with funding from Kansas Dental Charitable Foundation, and in partnership with Kansas Coordinated School Health Program, has developed oral health guidelines. These documents are designed to support school districts that wish to integrate oral health into school policies and classroom activities. They offer ideas and suggestions so that district and building administrators can select those that are most appropriate for their communities, teachers and students.

The documents include a list of oral health topics essential for students to learn, strategies for incorporating oral health into each of the eight components of Kansas Coordinated School Health, ideas for incorporating oral health into classroom activities, and a list of oral health curricula appropriate for all grades -- pre-k through high school. Click here to view the new section:

<http://www.oralhealthkansas.org/students.html>

Oral Health Kansas is always adding new tools, resources and information to our new website. Be sure to check it out!

Click here to view our website: [www.oralhealthkansas.org](http://www.oralhealthkansas.org)

If you have an idea, story or suggestion for a Oral Health Kansas Weekly Wednesday Update please send an email to [jparnell@oralhealthkansas.org](mailto:jparnell@oralhealthkansas.org)

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