

# The Obesity Epidemic and

# **Nez Perce Students**

# What is the problem?

The 2011 Nez Perce Youth Risk Behavior Survey indicates that among high school students:

## Obesity

• 12% were obese (students who were  $\geq$  95th percentile for body mass index, based on sex- and age-specific reference data from the 2000 CDC growth charts).

## **Unhealthy Dietary Behaviors**

- 5% did not eat fruit or drink 100% fruit juices during the 7 days before the survey.
- 4% did not eat vegetables during the 7 days before the survey. (1)
- 7% drank a can, bottle, or glass of soda or pop three or more times per day during the 7 days before the survey. (2)

### **Physical Inactivity**

- 10% did not participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on any day. (3)
- 68% were physically active at least 60 minutes per day on less than 7 days. (3)
- 50% did not attend physical education (PE) classes in an average week when they were in school.
- 72% did not attend PE classes 5 days in an average week when they were in school.
- 26% watched television 3 or more hours per day on an average school day.
- 20% used computers 3 or more hours per day on an average school day. (4)

## What are the solutions?

Better health education • More PE and physical activity programs • Healthier school environments

## What is the status?

The 2012 Nez Perce School Health Profiles indicates that among high schools:

#### **Health Education**

- 67% required students to take 2 or more health education courses.
- 67% had a health education curriculum that addresses all 8 national standards for health education.
- 100% taught 14 key nutrition and dietary behavior topics in a required course.
- 67% taught 12 key physical activity topics in a required course.

### **PE and Physical Activity**

- 100% required physical education for students.
- 33% offered opportunities for all students to participate in intramural activities or physical activity clubs.

## School Environment

- 33% did not sell less nutritious foods and beverages anywhere outside the school food service program.
- 33% did not sell soda pop or fruit drinks that are not 100% juice from vending machines or at the school store, canteen, or snack bar.
- 0% always offered fruits or non-fried vegetables in vending machines and school stores, canteens, or snack bars, and during celebrations when foods and beverages are offered.
- 33% prohibited all forms of advertising and promotion of candy, fast food restaurants, or soft drinks in all locations. (5)
- 67% used the School Health Index or a similar self-assessment tool to assess their policies, activities, and programs in nutrition and physical activity.
- 1. Green salad, potatoes (excluding French fries, fried potatoes, or potato chips), carrots, or other vegetables.
- Not including diet soda or diet pop.
- 3. Doing any kind of physical activty that increased their heart rate and made them breathe hard some of the time.
- 4. Played video or computer games or used a computer for something that was not school work.
- 5. In school buildings; on school grounds, including on the outside of the school building, on playing fields, or other areas of the campus; on school buses or other vehicles used to transport students; and in school publications.

Where can I get more information? Visit www.cdc.gov/yrbss or call 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636).



