Active Meeting Guidelines

Movement during a meeting – standing, stretching or participating in a movement break – increases meeting participation and attention span, which can mean a more productive meeting. Let’s Go! encourages movement in all meetings. Everyone will benefit from increased movement, no matter how brief. To increase movement during your meetings, follow these basic guidelines.

Guidelines for Meeting Leaders:

- At the beginning of every meeting let participants know it’s okay to stand up and move during the meeting or to ask for a movement break.
- Provide one to two movement breaks each hour (self-directed or structured).
- Include breaks on the agenda.
- Always allow for participants to opt out of the activity.
- Movement breaks may be self-directed, led by the meeting facilitator, or video routines may be viewed on a website. Resources for each are in the Let’s Go! Healthy Workplace toolkit and at www.letsgo.org.

Guidelines for Meeting Participants:

- Movement is always optional.
- Feel free to stand up in the back of the room.
- Move only in ways you feel comfortable.
- Assess space and clearance to avoid injury.
- Individuals with acute or chronic conditions, or other concerns about their health, should check with their provider before beginning any new physical activity.

Quick Tips

- When the energy is waning, ask everyone to stand up, take a deep breath, lift their arms over their head to reach to the ceiling, lower their arms and sit back down.
- If your discussion stalls, take a two-minute stretch break.
- Movement breaks can be as quick as two minutes, so no matter how long your meeting is, you can fit one into the agenda!

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