

Business and Noninstructional Operations

Food Service/Child Nutrition Program

1. The Board of Education recognizes that students need adequate, nourishing food in order to grow, learn, and to provide a good foundation for their future physical well-being. Accordingly, it is the desire of the Board to provide for a complete food service program as the needs of the students and the financial capacity of the District permit. The Board recognizes that the lunch and breakfast programs are an important complement to the nutritional responsibilities of parents and guardians.
2. The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies to increase students' access to the District's food service programs and to maximize their participation in available programs.
3. Foods and beverages available through the District's food service program shall:
 - a. Be carefully selected so as to contribute to students' nutritional well-being and the prevention of disease
 - b. Meet or exceed nutrition standards specified in law and administrative regulation
 - c. Be prepared in ways that will appeal to students, retain nutritive quality, and foster lifelong healthful eating habits
 - d. Be served in age-appropriate portions
 - e. Be available to students who meet federal eligibility criteria at no cost or at reduced prices, and to other students at reasonable prices

The District's food service program shall give priority to serving unprocessed foods and fresh fruits and vegetables.

4. To encourage student participation in school meal programs, schools may offer multiple choices of food items within a meal service, provided all food items meet nutrition standards and all students are given an opportunity to select any food item.

The Superintendent or designee may invite students and parents/guardians to participate in the selection of foods of good nutritional quality for school menus.

The Board desires to provide students with adequate time and space to eat meals. To the extent possible, school, recess, and transportation schedules shall be designed to encourage participation in school meal programs.

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5. The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to the Board on student participation in the district's nutrition programs and the extent to which the district's food services program meets state and federal nutrition standards for foods and beverages. In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall provide all necessary and available documentation required for the Administrative Review conducted by the California Department of Education (CDE) to ensure the food service program's compliance with federal requirements related to nutrition standards, meal patterns, provision of drinking water, school meal environment, food safety, and other areas as required by the CDE.

Legal References: Education Code Sections, 35182.5; 38080-38103; 45103.5; 49430-49436; 49490-49494; 49500-49505; 49510-49520; 49530-49536; 49540-49546; 49547-49548.3; 49550-49562; 49570; 51795-51797
Code of Federal Regulations, Title 7, 210.1-210.31; 215.1-215.18; 220.1-220.21; 245.1-245.13
California Retail Food Code, Health and Safety Code, 113700-114437
Code of Regulations, Title 5, 15510; 15530-15535; 15550-15565; 15575-15578
United States Code, Title 42, 1751-1769j; 1758b; 1761; 1769a; 1771-1793; 1772; 1773

Policy Adopted: 05/15/1973

Policy Amended: 02/19/1985; 07/19/1994; 02/04/2003; 11/03/2010; 03/24/2015

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