

BP 3550 FOOD SERVICE

The School Board recognizes that students need adequate, nourishing food in order to grow, learn, and to give a good foundation for their future physical well-being. The Board may provide for a food service program based on regular lunch service and include other snack and breakfast programs as the needs of the students and the financial capacity of the district permit. The Board recognizes that breakfast, lunch and other nutrition programs are an important complement to the nutritional responsibilities of parents/guardians.

The Board believes that:

1. Foods and beverages available on school premises should contribute to the nutritional well-being of students and meet the nutritional criteria of the applicable child nutrition program operating in the District. Nutrition programs must comply with applicable state and federal law.
2. Foods can help students and families feel comfortable in the school. The District may include cultural and subsistence foods if available and can be served in compliance with school safety and nutritional programs.
3. Foods and beverages available should be considered as carefully as other educational support materials as they can serve to build cultural connectedness for students.
4. Foods and beverages should be prepared in ways which will appeal to students while retaining nutritive quality.
5. To further Alaskan values, food and beverages should be prepared and served in ways that reduce waste.
6. Food should be served in quantities appropriate to the needs of students at their age level and served in as pleasant and relaxed an atmosphere as possible, with adequate time for students to eat and travel to and from the cafeteria.
7. Schools are encouraged to assess common eating habits and eating times to establish appropriate meal and snack times.
8. Foods grown in the state provide nutritional, environmental, and economic benefits and should be utilized in the district's food service program to the extent feasible.
9. The District and its schools will have food safety plans and written guidance for procuring, receiving, and preparing subsistence foods harvested and donated to the school.
10. The District will include subsistence foods as a part of the nutritional and dietary guidelines for Americans.

The Superintendent or designee will oversee the development of a written food safety program for each food preparation and serving facility in the district, as required by law. Foods and beverages will be stored, prepared and served in accordance with food safety regulations in order to prevent or reduce the risk of food-borne illness among students.

Qualified and trained food service personnel are critical to a healthy and safe food service

program. The Superintendent or designee shall hire qualified personnel and/or an independent contractor, taking into consideration professional standards required by law, and will ensure that continuing education and training is provided to food service personnel in compliance with applicable state and federal standards.

(cf. 4131 – Staff Development)

The School Board intends that, insofar as possible, the school food services program shall be self-supporting and may include foods from school gardens, greenhouses and farms. The Board shall review and approve of menu prices. Program financial reports shall be presented regularly for inspection by the Board.

(cf. 3554 – Other Food Sales)

(cf. 5040 – Student Nutrition and Physical Activity)

(cf. 6163.4 – School Gardens, Greenhouses and Farms)

Legal Reference:

UNITED STATES CODE

Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. 1751-1769j Child Nutrition Act of 1996, 42 U.S.C. 1771-1793

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS

7 C.F.R. Parts 210, 220, and 235 National School Lunch Program and Breakfast Program

FEDERAL REGISTER

Professional Standards for State and Local School Nutrition Programs Personnel as Required by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, Vol. 80, No. 40 and No. 88 (2015)

Revised 10/2021

9/92

Adopted: 2/21/2023