

FOOD SERVICES MANAGEMENT/FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE FOOD SERVICES

The Board recognizes the school food service program as an integral part of the education program. The program shall provide a practical form of education. Recognizing that a balanced, nutritional breakfast and lunch are necessary to aid students in maintaining an alert mind, it is the policy of the District to operate a food service program in its schools; further, the policy of the District to be committed to the following basic concepts:

1. Food available at school shall make a significant contribution to the development of healthful eating habits and to meeting the nutritional needs of students.
2. The school food service and nutrition education programs shall be an integral part of the school's comprehensive health education program, and shall support the National School Lunch and Breakfast program.
3. District nutrition standards apply only to food or beverage sold. Food provided free as refreshment for parties, teacher appreciation functions, etc, it not subject to district nutrition standards. However, offering foods that meet these standards is highly recommended.
4. The financial integrity of the nonprofit school lunch and breakfast programs shall be fully maintained and supported.
5. Sales of food and beverage in competition with the meal service of the Food Service Department, including those items sold in vending machines, are prohibited by board policy in conjunction with federal law.

Standards for Sale of Food and Beverages

Standards governing the types of food which may be sold in the schools and the time and place at which each type of food may be sold will be enforced. These standards will be based on the following guidelines:

1. Fairfield City Schools Nutrition Standards meet the school beverage and competitive food guidelines established by the Alliance for a Healthier Generation.
2. The types of food sold in the schools will be determined as to their potential to contribute significantly to the daily nutritional needs of students and to enhance the District's nutrition philosophy and nutrition education curriculum.
3. The time of day and place for the sale of food to students will be consistent with the nutrient intake needs and eating patterns of students and compatible with class schedules for schools within the District.

4. Food items sold on school property at extracurricular or special events are exempt from the nutritional requirements of this policy.
5. Coffee and tea beverages are exempt from all requirements of this policy.
6. Prices for student lunch, breakfast and milk shall be determined by the Board in accordance with State and Federal guidelines and the financial needs of the Food Service Program.
7. In accordance with provisions of the Ohio Revised Code, all sales made in the cafeteria during the school day must accrue to the Food Service Account.

Restrictions on Food and Beverage ("a la carte") Sales in Schools

1. The Fairfield City Schools Nutrition Standards for food and beverage sales restricts the sale of certain foods and beverages during the regular school day.
2. The restrictions apply only to "a la carte" items, which are individually priced food and beverage items available for sale to students through the school breakfast or lunch program, vending machines located on school property, or school stores.
3. The restrictions do not apply to food or beverages that are part of a complete meal provided through a federally subsidized breakfast or lunch program and are being sold individually in a serving portion of the same size as in the complete meal. They also do not affect foods and beverages sold in connection with a school-sponsored fundraiser or other event. Finally, they do not apply to vending machines that are accessible only to staff members.
4. In order to meet all Federal and State Guidelines regarding the Ala Carte Nutrition Standards for Food, Fairfield City Schools will adopt the Nutrient Density Format provided by the Ohio Department of Education, Office of Safety, Health and Nutrition.
5. In accordance with R.C. 3313.817 (A), the Ohio Department of Education, Office of Safety, Health and Nutrition is to provide each public and chartered nonpublic school with free computer software for assessing the nutritional value of foods. The software must do the following:
 - Rate the healthiness of foods based on nutrient density.
 - Assess the amount of calories, total fat, saturated fat, sugar, protein, fiber, calcium, iron, vitamin A, and vitamin C in each food item; and
 - Evaluate the nutritional value of foods based on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Health and Human Services as they pertain to children and adolescents.
6. Due to market fluctuation, all a la carte pricing will be determined by the Food Service Department and the Business Office.

Placement of vending machines

1. The Fairfield City School District prohibits the placement of vending machines in classrooms where students are provided instruction. The exceptions to this are:
 - Where the instructional space is also the space where students are served meals; and,
 - Vending machines that sell only milk, federally subsidized complete meals, or food and beverage items that are part of a federally subsidized meal and are sold as individually priced items in serving portions of the same size as in the complete meal, may be placed anywhere.
2. Profits from vending machines and school stores patronized by students, staff and/or the general public shall be expended only for a school purpose or for an activity in connection with the school. This may include purchase and repair of equipment, as well as other supplements to the school building and/or department budget.

Annual Compliance Report and Adoption of Standards

1. In accordance with O.R.C. 3313.814 (D), the Superintendent or designee will create an annual report regarding the district compliance with the standards and submit it to the Ohio Department of Education, the Office of Safety, Health and Nutrition and to the Board by April 30 of each school year. The Board shall schedule a presentation on the report and the district shall make copies of the report available to the public upon request.
2. Fairfield City Schools in accordance with O.R.C. 3313.814 (A) shall consult with a licensed dietitian technician registered by the Commission on dietetic Registration or a School Nutrition Specialist in developing these standards.

Cafeteria Standard

Cafeterias shall meet all standards established by local, state and federal officials.

Free and Reduced-Price Lunches

If required by the State Department of Education, the Board annually shall review and adopt a statement of the procedures for the implementation of a program whereby students whose parents qualify under regulations approved by the Board shall be entitled to receive free or reduced-price lunches and breakfasts. Copies of the Regulations shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the Superintendent, the principal and the appropriate cafeteria official.

[Adoption date: September 25, 1995; Revised May 19, 2011]

LEGAL REFS.: O.R.C. 3313.81; 3313.812; 3313.813