Poplar School District

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS

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Food Services

The District supports the philosophy of the National School Lunch Program and shall provide wholesome, appetizing and nutritious meals for children in the District's schools. The Board may authorize a portion of the federal funds received in lieu of taxes to be used to provide free meals for federally connected indigent pupils.

Because of the potential liability of the District, the food services program shall not accept donations of food without the approval of the Board. Should the Board approve a food donation, the Superintendent shall establish inspection and handling procedures for the food and determine that the provisions of all state and local laws have been met before selling the food as part of the school meals.

Free and Reduced-Price Food Services

The District shall provide free and reduced price meals to students according to the terms of the National School Lunch Program and the laws, rules and regulations of the state. The District shall inform parents of the eligibility standards for free or reduced price meals. Identity of students receiving free or reduced-price meals will be confidential in accordance with the National School Lunch Program guidelines. The business manager shall be responsible for determining eligibility. Students in the foster care system and other students as provided by the Child Nutrition Act shall be categorically eligible for free meals. A parent has the right to appeal any decision with respect to his/her application for free or reduced price food services to a designated hearing official.

Nutrition

The District shall provide school meals that meet or exceed the nutritional standards required by state and federal school lunch programs.

The Superintendent shall establish rules for the sale of foods during the school day. To encourage the eating of nutritious lunches, competitive food services shall not be permitted to operate anywhere on school premises during or for the period of one hour before and after the lunch period.

Any food sales of an occasional nature must have the prior approval of the building principal.

Cross Reference: Administrative Procedures

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Legal Reference: § 20-10-204, MCA Duties of trustees

§ 20-10-207, MCA Food services fund

§ 20-10-205, MCA Allocation of federal funds to school

fund services fund

Policy History: Adopted on:

Revised on: 11 July 2016

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Wellness

Nutrition Guidelines for All Foods Available on Campus

Meals served through the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs will:

- be appealing and attractive to children;
- be served in clean and pleasant settings;
- meet, at a minimum, nutrition requirements established by local, state, and federal statutes and regulations;
- offer a variety of fruits and vegetables;
- serve only low-fat (1%) and fat-free milk white or flavored
- ensure that half of the served grains are whole grain.

Breakfast

To ensure that all children have breakfast, either at home or at school, in order to meet their nutritional needs and enhance their ability to learn:

- Schools will, to the extent possible, operate the School Breakfast Program.
- Schools will, to the extent possible, arrange bus schedules and utilize methods to serve school breakfasts that encourage participation.
- Schools that serve breakfast to students will notify parents and students of the availability of the School Breakfast Program.
- Schools will encourage parents to provide a healthy breakfast for their children through newsletter articles, take-home materials, or other means.

Free and Reduced-priced Meals

Schools will make every effort to eliminate any social stigma attached to, and prevent the overt identification of, students who are receiving free and reduced-priced school meals.

Meal-Times and Scheduling

Schools will:

- provide students with at least 10 minutes to eat after sitting down for breakfast and 20 minutes after sitting down for lunch
- not schedule tutoring, club, or organizational meetings or activities during mealtimes, unless students may eat during such activities
- provide students access to hand washing or hand sanitizing before they eat meals or snacks
- provide dining areas that have enough seating space for all students assigned to a lunch period.

Rewards

Schools are encouraged not to use foods or beverages as rewards for academic performance or good behavior, and will not withhold food or beverages (including food served through school meals) as punishment.

Ala Carte and All Vending Machines

Beverages

- will exclude items that qualify as a meal component under the guidelines of the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program
- will only include 100% fruit juice, water, flavored zero calorie water, low-fat white and flavored milk (skim and 1%)
- all beverages will not exceed 16oz in size except for water

Snacks

- will be less than 35% calories from fat
- will be less than 10% saturated fat
- will contain no trans fat
- will be no more than 35% total weight from sugar
- will be 300 calories or less per item

Cross Reference: BP 2510

AR 2510