

Lewis Center for Educational Research

**BP 3550: FOOD SERVICE/CHILD NUTRITION
PROGRAM**

Adopted: September 12, 2011

Revised:

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

To reinforce the organization's nutrition education program, foods available on school premises shall be:

1. Carefully selected so as to contribute to students' nutritional well-being and the prevention of disease
2. Considered as carefully as other educational support materials.
3. Prepared in ways which will appeal to students, retain nutritive quality and foster lifelong healthful eating habits.
4. Served in age-appropriate quantities and at reasonable prices.

Students shall be provided adequate space to eat meals in pleasant surroundings as well as adequate time to eat, relax and socialize.

Contingent upon state funding being appropriated and no later than January 1, 2004, food sold at elementary and middle schools shall adhere to the nutritional standards specified in Education Code [49431](#). Foods sold at elementary and middle schools shall be made available only during prescribed times.

The President or designee shall ensure that the meals offered by the organization's food service program meet all legal requirements for participation in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs.

To the extent permitted under the national School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, students in all grades shall be allowed to decline a certain number of meal items which they do not intend to consume.

The President or designee shall develop strategies designed to encourage the participation of students and parents/guardians in the selection of foods of good nutritional quality for school menus. Parents/guardians are encouraged to support the organization's nutrition

education efforts by considering nutritional quality when selecting any snacks which they may donate for occasional class parties.

The Board may establish a Child Nutrition and Physical Activity Advisory Committee to develop school organization policies on nutrition and physical activity for recommendation to and approval by the Board.

The organization may contract out for a food service program when:

1. An adequate program does not exist within the organization,
2. Adequate facilities do not exist to provide an adequate food service program, or
3. The organization program is not self-supporting.