



Book	Southern Lehigh School District
Section	800 Operations
Title	Food Services
Code	808 Vol III 2021
Status	Active
Adopted	October 3, 1975
Last Reviewed/Revised	3/7/83, 7/11/16, 8/28/17, 11/21/22

Purpose

The Board recognizes that students require adequate, nourishing food and beverages in order to grow, learn and maintain good health. The Board directs that students shall be provided with adequate space and time to eat meals during the school day. The food service program shall be operated in compliance with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations, as well as federal guidelines established by the Child Nutrition Division of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Authority

The district shall ensure that, in the operation of the food service program, no student, staff member, or other individual shall be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability.

Food sold by the school may be purchased by students and district employees but only for consumption on school premises. The price charged to students shall be established annually by the district in compliance with state and federal laws.

Non-program food shall be priced to generate sufficient revenues to cover the cost of such items. A non-program food shall be defined as a food or beverage, other than a reimbursable meal or snack that is sold at the school and is purchased using funds from the child nutrition account. Non-program foods include but are not limited to adult meals and a-la-carte items. All revenue from the sale of non-program food shall accrue to the child nutrition program account.

Delegation of Responsibility

Operation and supervision of the food service program shall be the responsibility of the Business Manager and Food Services Director.

The individual responsible for the operation and supervision of the food service program shall present to the Board each month for its approval a statement of receipts and expenditures for cafeteria funds.

Cafeterias shall be operated on a nonprofit basis. A periodic review of the cafeteria

accounts shall be made by the Business Manager and auditor.

The individual responsible for the operation and supervision of the food service program shall ensure that school meals meet the standards required by the School Breakfast Program, the National School Lunch Program and the Special Milk Program.

The Superintendent or designee shall comply with state and federal requirements for conducting cafeteria health and safety inspections and ensuring employee participation in appropriate inspection services and training programs.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians, and employees concerning the contents of this policy and applicable administrative regulations. Notification shall include information related to nondiscrimination.

Guidelines

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To reinforce the district's commitment to nutrition and student wellness, foods served in school cafeterias shall:

1. Be carefully selected to contribute to students' nutritional well-being and health.
2. Meet the nutrition standards specified in law and regulations and approved by the Board.
3. Be prepared by methods that will retain nutritive quality, appeal to students, and foster lifelong healthy eating habits.
4. Be served in age-appropriate quantities, at reasonable prices.

The district shall use USDA Foods for school menus available under the Child Nutrition USDA Foods Programs.

All funds derived from the operation, maintenance or sponsorship of the food service program shall be deposited in the separate cafeteria fund, in the same manner as other district funds. Such funds shall be expended in the manner approved and directed by the Board, but no amount shall be transferred from the cafeteria fund to any other account or fund; however, district advances to the food service program may be returned to the district's general fund from any surplus resulting from its operation.

Surplus accounts shall be used only for the improvement and maintenance of the cafeteria.

Procurement

Procurement of goods or services for the food service program shall meet the requirements of applicable law, regulations and Board policy and procedures.

Free/Reduced-Price Meals and Free Milk

The district shall provide free and reduced-price meals and/or free milk to students in accordance with the terms and conditions of the National School Lunch Program, the School Breakfast Program, and the Special Milk Program.

The district shall conduct direct certification three (3) times per year using the Pennsylvania Student Eligibility System (PA-SES) to identify students who are eligible for free school meal benefits without the need for submission of a household application. Direct certification shall be conducted:

1. July 1st through September 30th.
2. October 1st through October 31st
3. November 1st through January 31st.

Accommodating Students With Special Dietary Needs

The district shall make appropriate food service and/or meal accommodations to students with special dietary needs in accordance with applicable law, regulations and Board policy. ~~Students shall not be charged additional monies if dietary alternatives, which shall be provided, are required based on medical or religious documentation.~~

School Food Safety Inspections

The district shall obtain two (2) safety inspections per year in accordance with local, state, and federal laws and regulations.

The Food Service Coordinator or designee shall post the most recent inspection report and release a copy of the report to members of the public, upon request.

School Food Safety Program

The district shall comply with federal requirements in developing a food safety program that enables district schools to take systematic action to prevent or minimize the risk of foodborne illness among students.

The district shall maintain proper sanitation and health standards in food storage, preparation and service, in accordance with applicable state and local laws and regulations and federal food safety requirements.

Professional Standards For Food Service Personnel

The district shall comply with the professional standards for school food service personnel who manage and operate the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. For purposes of this policy, professional standards include hiring standards for new food service program directors and annual continuing education/training for all individuals involved in the operation and administration of school meal programs. Such professional standards shall apply to both district-operated food service programs and contracted food service programs.

School Meal Service and Accounts

To ensure the effective operation of the district's food service program, and delivery of school food program meals to students, the district shall:

1. The district shall assign individual accounts to each student for the purchase of meals served in school cafeterias, which ensure that the identity of each student is

protected.

2. Notify students and/or parents/guardians when the student's account reaches a low balance.
3. Notify parents/guardians when the student's meal account reaches a negative balance. The notice shall include information on payment options.
4. Provide a school food program meal to each student who does not have the money to pay for the school food program meal or who has a negative balance in their school meal account, except when the student's parent/guardian has specifically provided written notice to the district to withhold a school food program meal.

When a student owes money for five (5) or more school food program meals, the district shall make at least two (2) attempts to contact the student's parent/guardian and shall provide the application for free/reduced-price school meal benefits to the parent/guardian to apply for benefits under federal school meal programs. The district shall offer assistance to parents/guardians with applying for free/reduced-price school meal benefits.

Communications regarding a low balance or money owed by a student for school meals shall be made to the student's parent/guardian.

School staff may communicate a low balance or money owed by a student for school meals to a student in grades 9-12; such communication shall be made to the individual student in a discreet manner.

District schools shall be prohibited from:

1. Publicly identifying or stigmatizing a student who cannot pay for a school food program meal or who has a negative school meal account balance. It shall not constitute public identification or stigmatization of a student for a school to restrict privileges and activities of students who owe money for school meals if those same restrictions apply to students who owe money for other school-related purposes.
2. Requiring a student who cannot pay for a school food program meal to perform chores or other work to pay for the meal, unless chores or other work are required of all students regardless of their ability or inability to pay for a school food program meal.
3. Requiring a student or school staff to discard a school food program meal after it was served to the student due to the student's inability to pay for the meal or due to a negative school meal account balance.

This policy and any applicable procedures or administrative regulations regarding school meal charges and school meal accounts shall be communicated annually to school administrators, school food service personnel, other appropriate school staff and contracted food service personnel.

The district shall annually inform parents/guardians, students and staff about the contents of this policy and any applicable procedures via the district website, student handbooks, newsletters,

posted notices and/or other efficient communication methods.

Collection of Unpaid Meal Charges

Reasonable efforts shall be made by the district to collect unpaid meal charges from parents/guardians. Efforts taken in the collection shall not have a negative impact on the student involved, but shall focus primarily on the parents/guardians responsible for providing funds for meal purchases.

References:

2. SC 504, 807.1, 1335, 1337 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1751 et. seq. 1773, 7 CFR Parts 210, 215, 220
FNS Instruction 113-1, 7 CFR 210.23
Sec 504 42 U.S.C. Sec 1760
42 U.S.C. Sec. 1760 7 CFR 210.14
3. Sec 504, Sec 504, 1337, SC 504, 1335, 1337, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1751 et seq, 1773, 7 CFR Parts 210, 215, 220
3 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 1758(h) 7 CFR Sec. 201.13, 201.30
FNS Instruction 113-1
4. Pol. 246 Sc 504
Sc 504
Pol. 610, 626, 827
42 U.S.C. Sec. 1758 7 CFR Part 245
7 CFR Sec. 15B.40 Pol. 113, 209.1
42 U.S.C. Sec 1758(h) 7 CFR Sec. 209.1
42 U.S.C. Sec 1758(h) 7 CFR Sec. 201.13, 220.7
42 U.S.C. Sec 1758(h) 7 CFR Part 210, Part 220
7 CFR Sec. 210.9, 210.13, 220.7
42 U.S.C. Sec. 1751 et seq, 1773, 7 CFR Sec. 210.30, 210.15

School Code – 24 P.S. SEC. 807.1, 1335, 1337

Food Protection – 3 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 5713

National School Lunch Program – 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1751 et seq. School Breakfast Program – 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1773

Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 – P.L. 111-296

Uniform Administrative Requirements for Federal Awards, Title 2, Code of Federal Regulations – 2 CFR Part 200

Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap in Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance, Title 7, Code of Federal Regulations – 7 CFR Part 15

National Food Service Programs, Title 7, Code of Federal Regulations – 7 CFR Part 210, Part 215, Part 200, Part 245

U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) Instruction 113-1 Board Policy –.103, 103.1, 113, 209.1, 610, 626, 827

Summer Food Service – 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1751 et seq. 7 CFR Part 225

Reviewed 2/26/90 Renumbered 9/12/07

Legal References

1. SC 504, 807.1, 1335, 1337
42 U.S.C.
Sec. 1751 et seq,
1773
2. 24 P.S. 1301-E
3. Pol. 832
4. Pol. 236

