



Champ's Cafe

Food Service Program
Charlotte County Public Schools

1016 Education Avenue
Punta Gorda, FL 33950
Phone 941-575-5400
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Terri Whitacre, Director
Don Buck, Operations Manager
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www.yourcharlotteschools.net

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I noticed your son/daughter prefers to select an orange juice to enjoy with their school meal instead of milk. Perhaps your child has a special diet need, such as an intolerance to lactose (milk sugar) or an allergy to milk, or they might just prefer juice over milk.

In order to comply with our state and federal regulations, **I must have a parent note on file indicating the medical need for this exception**. Please send this parent note in the near future to the School Nurse for her to share with Champ's Cafe.

At this time, I will inform our cashiers to allow your son or daughter to have an 8 oz. calcium-fortified orange juice or one of our calcium-fortified seasonal juices (apple cherry, blue raspberry, tropical island mix, green apple, peach, strawberry kiwi) instead of milk with their meals while we await your parent note. **Please do speak to your child so they know to ask for juice until we have your note on file.** If, in addition to milk, your child cannot drink our calcium-fortified orange juice or our other seasonal juices for a medical reason, then a physician's note will be required in order for your child to receive another beverage with the meal at no charge:

Substitutions or modifications for children without disabilities, with medically certified special dietary needs must be based on a statement by a **recognized medical authority**.

A medical statement (letter or prescription) must include:

- ➔ an identification of the medical or other special dietary condition that restricts the child's diet;
- ➔ the food or foods to be omitted from the child's diet and
- ➔ the food or choice of foods to be substituted.

Offering juice instead of milk is an exception to the USDA meal pattern we follow for the National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs: protein, bread, fruit, vegetable and milk. Please know the school is not required to make a substitution for a food allergy or food intolerance. Champ's Cafe is happy to work with our student customers to accommodate them.

Should your child's situation be a matter of **preference** rather than a medical need, an 8 oz. Orange, Apple or Seasonal Juice costs just **50¢** as an ala carte item. Feel free to call me at the school phone number noted below to discuss with me.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Champ's Cafe Manager

Phone: _____ ext. _____