

School Board of Charlotte County

Bylaws & Policies

8500 - FOOD SERVICES

The School Board shall, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, establish the necessary staff and provide procedures for the operation of a food service program in each school in accordance with the procedures of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. The food service program will comply with all federal and state regulations pertaining to its operation, including those of the Charlotte County Health Department, Florida Department of Health, and Florida Department of Education.

A. Food Service Program

The District recognizes the importance of good nutrition as it relates to each student's educational performance, health, and well-being.

This program shall be operated primarily as a service to students by providing the following:

1. Safe, attractive, and nutritious meals for students to refuel for learning;
2. Food service facilities designed to achieve the maximum in efficiency and cleanliness;
3. Worthwhile learning experiences which will contribute to the emotional, aesthetic, and social development of students; and
4. The opportunity for students to develop healthy eating, money management, and social habits.

B. Staffing

1. Administrative Responsibility

The direct responsibility for supervision and administration of the District-wide food service program shall be delegated to the Director of Food Service. The director shall provide system-wide coordination of resources for efficient preparation and service of nutritious meals for students at the lowest possible price.

2. Principal

The principal and local school staff shall have the following responsibilities:

- a. To comply with federal and state laws, regulations, the Health Department and the Board policies;
- b. To increase students' knowledge of nutrition and healthy food choices through classroom instruction and learning experiences;
- c. To appropriately schedule students to achieve the greatest participation in the school food service program;

- d. To ensure that every student has an opportunity to select his/her own meal, including occasions when a student is being disciplined in the office or classroom or a student has been placed in an in-school suspension program;
- e. To encourage educators and staff members to avoid the use of food as reward or punishment; and
- f. To maintain a safe and healthy academic atmosphere for students by restricting consumption of commercially-purchased foods, other than those prepared by the District's school food service program, on school grounds.

3. Employment of Minors

The rate of pay for employed minors shall be that of a beginning food service worker. Length of workday and duties performed shall be in compliance with federal law. No student shall be required to work for a free or reduced-price meal.

C. General Provisions

1. Offer vs. Serve

The Offer vs. Serve option is authorized at all schools in accordance with the National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs.

2. Availability of Meals

Students, employees of the Board, and Board members are the only persons who may regularly eat in the school cafeteria. The invited guests of school principals and/or the Director of Food Service, parents, or interested citizens may eat in the school cafeteria on an infrequent basis. The adult meal price shall be determined according to National School Breakfast and Lunch program regulations.

3. Commodities

U.S. Department of Agriculture commodities shall be used in accordance with current U.S.D.A. and applicable state rules and regulations.

4. Competitive Foods

- a. It shall be the goal that foods and beverages available in schools shall be those which meet the nutritional needs of students and contribute to the development of desirable health habits.
- b. No foods or beverages, other than those associated with the District's food service program and those beverages permitted in Policy [8540](#) - Vending Machines may be sold in competition with the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program to students on school premises.
- c. Elementary schools may only sell food and beverages after school hours. Secondary schools may only sell food and beverages, except those beverages permitted in Policy [8540](#) (Vending Machines) one (1) hour following the close of the last lunch period with proceeds from such sales accruing into the food service program or to a school organization with the Board's approval.

D. Price of Meals

The food service program shall be operated on a nonprofit basis. The price of meals shall be set by the Board upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

E. Eligibility for Free or Reduced-Price Meals

1. Federal School Meals Program

It is the intent of the Board to participate in the Federal School Meals Program and to offer free or reduced-price meals in accordance with the United States Department of Agriculture Guidelines.

2. Application Process

Family applications for free or reduced-price meals, where all members of the household are listed on one (1) application, shall be utilized by the District's food service office.

3. Eligibility

Those persons who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals shall be approved and properly accounted for by the Director of Food Service in accordance with criteria established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture or other authority.

4. Identification

The identification of students receiving free or reduced-price meals shall be kept confidential and not be regarded as public information.

F. Accounting

1. Superintendent

The Superintendent shall be responsible for the accurate accounting of all commodities, equipment, supplies, and cash in accordance with School District requirements and for making such reports as required.

2. Director of Food Service

The Director of Food Service shall be responsible for the food service managers' accurate accounting of all commodities, equipment, supplies, and cash in accordance with School District requirements, and for making such reports as required.

F.S. 1001.41, 1001.42, 1001.51, 1006.06
F.A.C. 6A-7.41, 6A-7.42(2), 6A-7.421, 6A-7.45, 6A-7.46
7 C.F.R. 210, 215, 220, 240, 245.8

Revised 1/07

School Board of Charlotte County

Bylaws & Policies

8510 - WELLNESS

As required by federal law, the School Board of Charlotte County establishes the following wellness policy.

The Board recognizes that good nutrition and regular physical activity affect the health and well-being of the District's students. Furthermore, research shows that students' health and well-being correlates with academic performance. Schools can play an important role in educating and encouraging wellness for their students by providing nutritious* meals and snacks through the schools' meals program, supporting the development of good eating habits, and promoting increased physical activity both in and out of school.

The Board, however, believes this effort to support the students' development of healthy behaviors and habits cannot be accomplished by the schools alone. We must all work together to ensure that healthy foods and physical activity are available throughout the school environment. Therefore, it is necessary for not only the staff, but also parents and the public at large to be involved in a community-wide effort to promote, support, and model healthy behaviors and habits.

The Board sets the following goals in an effort to enable students to establish good health and nutrition habits to improve student success:

A. Goals for Nutrition Education

1. Nutrition education shall stress the importance of healthy eating and regular physical activity;
2. When appropriate, nutrition education shall be integrated into all subject areas of the curriculum to complement, but not replace, the standards and benchmarks for that subject area;
3. Staff responsible for providing instruction in nutrition education shall have appropriate training;
4. Nutrition education shall extend beyond the classroom by involving the staff, families, and the community;

*For purposes of this policy, nutritious and healthy shall mean foods that are high in nutrients and low in added sugars, sodium, and fat.

5. The school cafeteria may serve as a learning lab by allowing students to apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills taught in the classroom when making choices at mealtime;

B. Goals for Physical Activity

1. Physical Education

- a. A sequential, comprehensive physical education program shall be provided for students in K-12 in accordance with the standards and benchmarks established by the state;
- b. All students in grades K-12, including those with disabilities, special health care needs, and in alternative educational settings (to the extent consistent with the students' IEPs), shall have the opportunity to receive physical education during each school year (to the extent the student's academic program allows);
- c. Physical education teachers are encouraged to implement technology into daily physical education classes to individualize student exercise programs to promote lifelong fitness;
- d. Physical education teachers shall assess students on individual gains rather than from a baseline;

2. Physical Activity

- a. Physical activity and movement are encouraged across the curricula and throughout the school day;
- b. Physical activity shall not be used as a form of discipline or punishment during the school day including physical education settings. Extra-curricular and co-curricular physical activity is not subject to this restriction;
- c. All students in grades K-5 shall be provided with a daily recess period. Elimination of recess shall not be used as a form of discipline or punishment, unless the misbehavior necessitating discipline or punishment occurred during recess;
- d. Schools shall encourage families to provide physical activity outside the regular school day, such as outdoor play at home, participation in sports sponsored by community agencies or organizations, and in lifelong physical activities like bowling, swimming, tennis, and golf;

C. Goals for Other School-Based Activities Designed to Promote Student and Staff Wellness

1. Staff and community members who choose to eat at school with students are encouraged to model healthy eating habits;
 2. Students are not permitted to leave school grounds to obtain food unless they have permission from the principal (see Policy [5130](#));
 3. Students are not permitted to order food for delivery to the school unless they have specific permission from the principal (see the Code of Student Conduct);
 4. Food or beverages sold as a fund-raiser, with the exception of concession stand sales (see Policy [8540](#) C.4.), are encouraged to be nutritious and healthy** (see Policy [8500](#) C.4.a.b.c.);
 5. To maintain a healthy school environment, all concession stand sales for the first hour after the close of the last lunch period are encouraged to be nutritious and healthy**;
-

*Concession stand: any stand used to sell food, beverages, or other items that operates no sooner than one (1) hour after the close of the last lunch period or on weekends.

**For purposes of this policy, nutritious and healthy shall mean foods that are high in nutrients and low in added sugars, sodium, and fat.

6. Advertising and marketing of food and beverages in school shall be in alignment with promoting student health and well-being;
7. Students, parents, and other community members shall have access to school outdoor physical activity facilities (excluding swimming pools and other areas requiring trained supervision) outside the normal school day;
8. An organized wellness program shall be available to all staff.

D. Nutrition Guidelines for all Foods Available on Campus During the School Day

1. The school food service program shall provide all students affordable access to the varied and nutritious foods they need to be healthy and to learn well;
2. The schools shall provide adequate time for students to eat by appropriately scheduling students for breakfast and lunch service (see Policy [8500](#) B.2.c.);
3. The food service program shall comply with federal and state regulations pertaining to the selection, preparation, consumption, and disposal of food and beverages as well as to the fiscal management of the program (see Policy [8500](#) A.-F.);
4. The procedures for reimbursable school meals shall not be less restrictive than the procedures issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) (see Policy [8500](#) E.1.2.3.4.);
5. Students are discouraged from sharing their food or beverages with one another during meal times, given concerns about allergies and other restrictions with some students' diets;
6. A school Wellness Committee, including students, teachers, parents, and cafeteria managers shall be formed in order to set and monitor wellness goals for each school;
7. When recognizing student success or special events, schools are encouraged to celebrate with non-food rewards, including physical activities and group or individual projects;
8. School staff are encouraged to provide or request only classroom snacks that are healthy and nutritious;
9. Staff are encouraged to avoid the use of food for reward or punishment (see Policy [8500](#) B.2.e.);
10. Any food or beverages in student accessed vending machines shall be nutritious and healthy (see Policy [8540](#) C.4.a.b.c.).

The Board designates the wellness coordinators and the principals as the individuals charged with operational responsibility for measuring and evaluating the District's implementation and progress under this policy. The Superintendent shall develop administrative procedures necessary to implement this policy.

The Superintendent shall report annually to the Board on the District's compliance with this policy and the progress toward achieving the goals set forth herein.

42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.
42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.
F.S. 1001.41, 1001.42, 1001.43, 1006.06, 1006.0605, 1006.0606
F.A.C. 6A-7.0411

Adopted 6/20/06
Revised 1/07
Revised 9/11/07

School Board of Charlotte County Bylaws & Policies

8540 - VENDING MACHINES

The School Board recognizes that vending machines can produce revenues that are useful to augment programs and services to students and staff. Reflecting the Board's goal to create a learning environment that promotes health and wellness, it will authorize the use of vending machines in District facilities providing the following conditions are satisfied:

- A. The installation, servicing, and maintenance of each machine is authorized through a District-wide contract with a reputable supplier of vending machines and their products.
- B. No products are vended which would conflict with or contradict information or procedures contained in the District's educational programs on health and nutrition.
- C. No food or beverages are to be sold or distributed which will compete with the District's food-service program except as follows:
 1. Vending of bottled water to students shall be permitted at the secondary school level throughout the school campus throughout the school day.
 2. Vending of 100% juices and sports drinks to students shall be permitted at the secondary school level at locations near the physical education and weight training complexes with the following time constraint:
 - a. No vending of beverages other than water shall be permitted during the one (1) hour prior to the scheduled lunch service, during lunch service, and during the one (1) hour following lunch service.
 - b. Vending machines used for these sales shall be on timers or have limited access for control purposes to meet the procedures above.
 3. Carbonated beverages may be offered only to staff in adult-only areas in schools.
 4. Carbonated beverages and food may be offered only as a fund-raiser for a school athletic group, club, or organization only at after-school or weekend events.

The Superintendent shall develop and implement administrative procedures that will ensure these conditions are adhered to on a continuing basis.

F.S. 1001.43

Revised 1/07