

MINNETONKA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

POLICY #719: FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES POLICY

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the operation of a strong, self-supporting Food and Nutrition Services program that provides a positive school experience for students and contributes to the efforts of staff to reach our vision and attain our mission.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The Food and Nutrition Services program is an integral part of the learning community providing customers with quality food and service in a pleasing environment. The program exists to enhance education by providing attractive, nutritious and affordable meals for all our customers in a financially sound manner. School meal service is a vital link to the physical and intellectual fitness of students. It is the Board's philosophy relative to the Food and Nutrition Program to:

- A) Provide a highly beneficial contribution to our children's education.
- B) To teach healthy choices for life.
- C) To offer a wide variety of healthy choices that teach kids how to develop healthy, lifetime eating habits.

It is the policy of Minnetonka Public Schools to provide school sites with the facilities and equipment necessary to implement a nutritional and cost effective Food and Nutrition Services Program for its students. It requires that:

- a) The meals served support students in their efforts to practice good dietary habits as taught in the District curriculum, and
- b) The fees collected from students offset the costs incurred by the District for the purchase, preparation and serving of the meals.

III. REQUIREMENT

- A) **AUTHORITY:** The Food and Nutrition Services Program is responsible for all foods served from the kitchens at the school sites.
- B) **COST CONTROLS:** The price of meals must be reasonable so that students can afford to purchase a school lunch. This is accomplished by controlling the cost of food preparation and service.
- C) **MENU PLANNING:** When administering the program, Food and Nutrition Services must comply with federal guidelines for the National School Lunch Program and reflect the good dietary habits identified in the District's health curriculum.

- D) FREE & REDUCED PRICE LUNCHES: The District must comply with state and federal guidelines regarding free and reduced price lunches.
- E) OPERATIONAL TIMELINES: All food and beverage items dispensed before classes begin in the morning and during the school day shall be through the School Food and Nutrition Services Program.
- F) ACCESS TO SCHOOL LUNCH: School lunches will be made available to all pupils and employees at each school site at the established rates.
- G) USE OF KITCHEN AND LUNCH ROOM SPACE: Kitchens and lunch rooms exist primarily for the benefit of the youngsters enrolled in school. No other activity during the time lunch is served shall be permitted to interfere with this function.
- H) LICENSING: All kitchens are licensed facilities and are subject to all the rules and regulations as specified in the Department of Health, Minnesota Food Code.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

- A. The program is administered by the Supervisor of Food and Nutrition Services through the Executive Director of Finance and Operations.
- B. Lunchroom personnel will share the responsibility for supervising lunch lines and lunchrooms when they are being used.

Adopted: September 16, 2004