

BUSINESS AND NON-INSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS

FOOD POLICY

BP 3550.1

To help ensure the health and welfare of each student attending Berkeley Unified School District and to provide guidance to school personnel in the areas of nutrition, health, physical activity and food service the Board subscribes to the following:

1. The Governing Board will ensure that no student in the Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD) goes hungry while in school.
2. The Governing Board will ensure that an economically sustainable meal program that provides a healthy nutritious lunch is available to every student at every school so that students are prepared to learn to their fullest potential. The district will also ensure that every student will have access to a healthy and nutritious breakfast and require that all after school programs offer a healthy nutritious snack.
3. The Governing Board will ensure that the nutritional value of the food served by Berkeley Unified School District and after school programs significantly improves upon USDA and State Dietary Guidelines by providing nutritious, fresh, tasty, locally grown food that reflects Berkeley's cultural diversity. The Board of Education encourages staff to utilize food from school gardens and local farmers based upon availability and acceptability.
4. The Board supports sustainable organic agriculture. Therefore the Nutrition Services Director shall develop and implement a plan to integrate organic food, as defined by the USDA National Organic Program, into the meals served to our students by the BUSD. The plan shall seek to eliminate potential harmful food additives and processes, such as bovine growth hormones, irradiation, hydrogenated oils, and known genetically modified foods.
5. Meals served to students shall be attractively presented in a pleasant environment with sufficient time for eating. It shall be the responsibility of the school staff to foster good manners and respect for fellow students.
6. Students at the K-8 level will not be involved in the sale of candy, sodas, cookies and sweets at any school sponsored event or for any fundraising activity.

7. Bake Sales and/or Ice Cream Socials may be held at the K-8 level with the permission of the school principal, in moderation and with consideration and consistency of the goals of this policy.
8. Foods offered to students and employees of BUSD during the day as a snack, an incentive, or in school offices, whether provided by parents or BUSD staff, shall be consistent with the goals of the policy.
9. The Board recognizes that class parties are a tradition in public education. However, parents and staff are encouraged to provide party snack items that are consistent with the goals of the policy and held after the lunch hour whenever possible.
10. The Governing Board will ensure that teachers, principals, and Nutrition Services employees recognize that the lunch period is an integral part of the educational program of BUSD and work to implement the goals of this policy.
11. The Governing Board shall ensure that eating experiences, gardens, and nutrition education are integrated into the core academic curriculum at all grade levels.

(cf. 6142.5 – Environmental Education)

Policy adopted:

Berkeley Unified School District

November 17, 2004

Berkeley, CA