

**FOOD SERVICE/CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM**

The Board of Trustees recognizes that adequate, nutritious food is essential to student health, development, and ability to learn. The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies to increase students' access to the District's food service programs and to maximize their participation in available programs.

Foods and beverages available through the District's food service program shall:

1. Be carefully selected so as to contribute to students' nutritional well-being and the prevention of disease.
2. Meet or exceed nutrition standards specified in law and administrative regulation.
3. Be prepared in ways, which will appeal to students while retaining nutritive quality. Foods shall include a variety of nutritious choices that, along with proper exercise and sleep, foster lifelong health and wellness.
4. Be served in age-appropriate portions.
5. Be available to students who meet federal eligibility criteria at no cost or at reduced prices, and to other students at reasonable prices.

The District's food service program shall give priority to serving unprocessed foods and fresh fruits and vegetables.

District schools are encouraged to establish school gardens and/or farm-to-school projects to increase the availability of safe, fresh, seasonal fruits and vegetables for school meals and to support the District's nutrition education program.

To encourage student participation in school meal programs, schools may offer multiple choices of food items within a meal service; provided all food items meet nutrition standards and all students are given an opportunity to select any food item.

The Superintendent or designee may invite students and parents/guardians to participate in the selection of foods of good nutritional quality for school menus.

The Board desires to provide students a pleasant and relaxed atmosphere with adequate time and space to eat meals. To the extent possible, school, recess, and transportation schedules shall be designed to encourage participation in school meal programs.

The Superintendent or designee shall periodically review the adequacy of school facilities for cafeteria eating and food preparation.

In accordance with law, the Superintendent or designee shall develop and maintain a food safety program in order to reduce the risk of foodborne hazards at each step of the food preparation process, from receiving to service.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually report to the Board on student participation in the District's nutrition programs and the extent to which the District's food service program meets state and federal nutrition standards for food and beverages. In addition, the Superintendent or

## Business and Noninstructional Operations

BP 3550 (b)

designee shall provide all necessary and available documentation required for the Administrative Review conducted by the California Department of Education (CDE) to ensure the food service program's compliance with federal requirements related to nutrition standards, meal patterns, provision of drinking water, school meal environment, food safety, and other areas as required by the CDE.

### *Legal Reference:*

#### *EDUCATION CODE*

[35182.5](#) *Contracts, non-nutritious beverages*  
[38080-38103](#) *Cafeteria, establishment and use*  
[45103.5](#) *Contracts for management consulting services; restrictions*  
[49430-49434](#) *Pupil Nutrition, Health, and Achievement Act of 2001*  
[49490-49494](#) *School breakfast and lunch programs*  
[49500-49505](#) *School meals*  
[49510-49520](#) *Nutrition*  
[49530-49536](#) *Child Nutrition Act*  
[49540-49546](#) *Child care food program*  
[49547-49548.3](#) *Comprehensive nutrition services*  
[49550-49562](#) *Meals for needy students*  
[49570](#) *National School Lunch Act*  
[51795-51797](#) *School gardens*

#### *HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE*

[113700-114437](#) *California Retail Food Code*  
*CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5*  
[15510](#) *Mandatory meals for needy students*  
[15530-15535](#) *Nutrition education*  
[15550-15565](#) *School lunch and breakfast programs*  
[15575-15578](#) *Requirements for foods and beverages outside federal meal programs*

#### *UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42*

[1751-1769j](#) *National School Lunch Program, including:*  
[1758b](#) *Local wellness policy*  
[1761](#) *Summer Food Service Program and Seamless Summer Feeding Option*  
[1769a](#) *Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program*  
[1771-1793](#) *Child nutrition, especially:*  
[1772](#) *Special Milk Program*  
[1773](#) *National School Breakfast Program*  
*CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 7*  
[210.1-210.31](#) *National School Lunch Program*  
[215.1-215.18](#) *Special Milk Program*  
[220.2-220.22](#) *National School Breakfast Program*  
[245.1-245.13](#) *Eligibility for free and reduced-price meals and free milk*

### Policy

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revised: August 13, 2001  
revised: August 21, 2019

### CAPISTRANO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

San Juan Capistrano, California