

FIRST READING

Policy

<u> X </u>	Monitored
<u> X </u>	Mandated
<u> </u>	Other Reasons

LUNCH OFFER VERSUS SERVE (OVS)

The Board of Education, to be in compliance with the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act (HHFKA) of 2010, adopts this Offer Versus Serve (OVS) Policy. Offer Versus Serve is a Policy for Federally reimbursable meals that allows students to decline a certain number of food components in the meal to reduce plate waste and food cost. Board of Education approval to implement a Lunch OVS Policy is optional at all grade levels. The provisions of the Lunch OVS Policy shall be in accordance with the requirements of the HHFKA of 2010.

A school lunch eligible for federal reimbursement shall offer five (5) food components in the appropriate amounts per grade grouping:

1. Fruit
2. Vegetable
3. Grains
4. Meat/Meat Alternate
5. Milk

Students are allowed to decline two (2) of the five (5) required food components, but must select at least ½ cup of either fruit (or fruit combination) or ½ cup of vegetables (or vegetable combination) or ½ cup of a fruit/vegetable combination.

After taking the required ½ cup fruit or vegetable, students must select at least two (2) additional components in the full amounts (per grade group requirements) to count toward the reimbursable offer versus serve meal.

The student’s decision to accept all five (5) components or to decline two (2) components shall not affect the price charged for the meal. The lunch is priced as a unit. If students do not choose enough food items to comprise a reimbursable meal, a la carte prices will be charged.

School staff cannot require a student to take a particular food component (except the required ½ cup fruit or vegetable). It is the student’s choice to select three, four or all five components.

Prepackaged meals such as bagged or “grab and go” meals are allowed under OVS. School staff is encouraged to offer some food components/food items with choices (e.g. fruit basket) and/or the option to decline a component/item, such as milk.

At each school implementing the Offer versus Serve Policy:

- School food service staff will be trained annually.
- Signs will be posted to assist students in identifying a reimbursable meal under OVS

Offer versus Serve will be implemented in all schools.