

SALES OF FOOD IN COMPETITION WITH THE SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

Regional School Unit 13 supports good nutrition as part of a school environment that contributes to student health and encourages positive food choices and eating habits. The Board believes that nutrition influences a student's ability to take full advantage of the school system's educational program and is, therefore, related to student achievement.

The Board also recognizes that proceeds from the sale of foods and beverages outside of the School Lunch Program ("competitive foods") are a significant source of funds for student activities that RSU #13 might not otherwise be able to provide.

The Board has adopted this policy to govern the sale of foods and beverages on school property.

Restriction on the Sale of Competitive Foods

Maine Department of Education Rule Chapter 51 mandates that any food or beverage sold at any time on school property of a school participating in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs shall be a planned part of the total food service program of the school and shall include only those items which contribute both to the nutritional needs of children and the development of desirable food habits, and shall not include foods of minimal nutritional value as defined in applicable federal regulations, except as provided for by school-board policy in unique circumstances.

As allowed by Rule Chapter 51, the Board permits the sale of food and beverages outside the total food program to:

1. School staff
2. Attendees at school-sponsored events held on school property (i.e., school-sponsored events that are open to the public)
3. The public at community events held on school property in accordance with the Board's facilities use policy
4. By a school approved student organization or program if consistent with the requirement that such sales not include foods of minimal nutritional value as defined in 7 C.F.R., Sub-Section 210.11(a)(2).

This policy applies to sales of foods and beverages at any time on school property by any person, group, or organization.

When foods and beverages are sold to raise funds for schools or student activities, students, staff, parents, or school-sponsored organizations involved in such sales are encouraged to include at least some healthy food choices.

Funds from the Sale of Competitive Foods

Funds from all food and beverage sales made at any time on school property shall accrue to the benefit of the school's non-profit school food-service program, except that funds raised through authorized sales outside the total food-service program shall accrue to the sponsoring school or approved student organization in accordance with applicable policies, cash-management procedures, and administrative directives, or to the sponsor of a community event that is held on school property in accordance with the Board's facilities use policy.

Legal Reference: Chapter 51 (Department of Education Rule – Child Nutrition Programs In Public Schools and Institutions)

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