

Attachment 1 – Draft Food Programs Administrative Procedure

Administrative Procedure 170 – Food Programs

Background

The District is committed to creating educational environments that support students and their learning. The District acknowledges that when children are healthy they are better able to learn and that schools can be an important contributor to their overall health.

The District also recognizes the importance of food and nutrition and that effective school Food Programs have the potential to improve student nutrition, academic progress, mental health, social functioning, and long term health.

Procedures

1. The Principal is responsible for the development and maintenance of the school Food Program. The Director of Instruction – Diversity and Inclusion, has responsibility for approving all school Food Programs.
2. The development of menus for school Food Programs, including cafeterias, will be consistent with Provincial policy and guidance including the *Guidelines for Food and Beverage Sales in BC Schools* and the *School Meal and School Nutrition Handbook*. The goal of these programs is to increase student access to healthy foods, and in particular, for students who may be identified as nutritionally vulnerable.
3. Food Programs will provide nutrition supports to students in a compassionate-informed manner that respects the dignity of students and families and does not expose them to potential stigmatization.
4. All Food Programs and food events must comply with applicable food safety standards including all requirements of the *BC Health Act Food Premises Regulation*.
5. When accepting donated foods, it is essential to ensure that the food is both safe and nutritious. The acceptability of donated foods should be discussed with a local Island Health Environmental Health Officer.
6. All school kitchens must obtain a permit to operate prior to beginning a school Food Program. A temporary permit may also be required for certain events. Guidance and an application package for a Permit to Operate can be obtained by contacting the local Health Protection & Environmental Services Location of Island Health. A permit is not required for foods prepared as part of an authorized curriculum.
7. A caterer engaged for the delivery of a Food Program is required to adhere to this administrative procedure.

Reference: BC Health Act Food Premises Regulation
Guidelines for Food and Beverage Sales in BC Schools
School Meal and School Nutrition Handbook

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