

Palouse Prairie Charter School

NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS

8240

School Meals

This policy supports the mission of the Charter School: Providing an environment that cultivates maximum student potential. Nutrition influences a child's development, health, well-being, and potential for learning. To afford students the opportunity to fully participate in the educational process, students must attend school with minds and bodies ready to take advantage of their learning environment. This nutrition policy encourages all members of the Charter School community to create an environment that supports lifelong healthy eating habits. Decisions made in all Charter School programming need to reflect and encourage positive nutrition messages and healthy food choices.

National School Lunch Program and the National School Breakfast Program

1. The full meal program will follow the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the National School Breakfast Program (SBP) Nutrition Standards as well as Smart Snacks in Schools regulations and offer a variety of fruits and vegetables. All of the grains served shall be whole grain;
2. The meals served will be appealing and attractive to children; and
3. NSLP and SBP provider shall follow the Nutrition Standards for these programs when determining the items in a la carte sales.

Breakfast

To ensure that all children have breakfast, either at home or at school, in order to meet their nutritional needs and enhance their ability to learn, the Charter School will:

1. To the extent possible, operate the School Breakfast Program;
2. To the extent possible, arrange schedules and utilize methods to serve school breakfasts that encourage participation, including serving breakfast in the classroom, "grab-and-go" breakfast, or breakfast during morning break or recess;
3. Notify parents and students of the availability of the School Breakfast Program, if applicable; and
4. Encourage parents to provide a healthy breakfast for their children through newsletter articles, take-home materials, or other means.

Lunchroom Climate

1. A lunchroom environment that provides students with a relaxed, enjoyable climate should be developed; and
2. It is encouraged that the lunchroom environment be a place where students have adequate space to eat and pleasant surroundings.

Meal Times and Scheduling Recommendations

The Charter School, to the greatest extent possible:

1. Should provide students with at least ten (10) minutes to eat after sitting down for breakfast and twenty (20) minutes after sitting down for lunch;
2. Meal periods should be scheduled at appropriate times. For instance, lunch should be scheduled between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM;
3. Tutoring, club meetings, and organizational meetings or activities should not be scheduled during mealtimes unless students may eat during such activities;
4. Lunch periods should follow recess periods;
5. Students should have access to hand washing or hand sanitizing facilities before they eat meals or snacks; and
6. Reasonable steps should be taken to accommodate the tooth-brushing regimens of students with special oral health needs, such as orthodontia or high tooth decay risk.

Legal Reference: 42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq. National School Lunch Act
7 CFR Parts 210 Nutrition School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs:
Final Rule
Smart Snacks in School Regulations by the United States Department of
Agriculture

Policy History:

Adopted on:

Revised on: 12/12/16