

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 67 (OKANAGAN SKAHA)

POLICY

POLICY #350 Nutrition

RATIONALE

The Board has a primary responsibility for students' intellectual development and a shared responsibility with families and the community for students' human, social and career development. Current research provides clear evidence about the negative trends in students' nutrition practices and lifestyle choices. It is essential for schools to join together with parents, community members, and health officials to address these alarming trends.

The health of our students impacts on their ability to learn. It is no longer an issue of why we should switch to healthier food choices/options for our students. It is clear that schools need to take a leadership role in promoting healthy food choices to our students.

POLICY

Positive nutrition practices must begin in early childhood when lifelong habits and attitudes are being formed. The Board believes that these habits and attitudes must be reinforced throughout the school years. The school's role is to not only provide nutrition education programs, but also to encourage the consumption of nutritious foods by the students in our schools.

The Board supports healthy food choices and directs the effective implementation of "Guidelines for Food and Beverage Sales in B.C. Schools – 2005" (amended, September 4, 2007, amended 2013) by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health, in all schools. Each school is expected to develop and implement a "healthy food choices" approach utilizing these guidelines.

ADOPTED: January 15, 2007

Reviewed/Revised: November 5, 2007
February 1, 2016

Statutory Reference:

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REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

POLICY #350 Nutrition

1. Each school considers establishing a “Healthy Choices Team” to make decisions on items ordered for the hot lunch menu, school store, special events, fundraisers, vending machine choices, and other food purchases that meet the requirements of the “Guidelines for Food and Beverage Sales in B.C. Schools – 2005” and as amended September 4, 2007 and 2013. Representatives on the team should include a student, teacher, PAC member, and administrator. The “Healthy Choices Team” could be a subcommittee of the PAC or an independent committee at the discretion of the school staff.

2. The schools are required to meet the guidelines recommended by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health in “Guidelines for Food and Beverage Sales in B.C. Schools – 2005” and as amended September 4, 2007 and 2013.

Schools must honour the terms of existing food/beverage/vending machine contracts provided that vendors meet the healthy food guidelines. All new or renewed contracts must follow the healthy food choice guidelines.

3. Schools must follow the criteria for categorizing food products as outlined in the province’s “Guidelines for Food and Beverage Sales in B.C. Schools – 2005 as amended September 4, 2007 and 2013.” The website for reference is www.bced.gov.bc.ca/health/tools.htm#eat.

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