

**COMPETITIVE FOOD SALES – SALES OF FOODS IN COMPETITION  
WITH THE SCHOOL FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM**

The Board 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 “competitive foods,” i.e., foods and beverages other than meals reimbursed through the National School Lunch Program Act or the Child Nutrition Act, are a significant source of funds for student activities that the school system might not otherwise be able to provide.

All competitive foods sold *to students* on the school campus during the school day must meet the federal nutrition standards specified in 7 CFR § 210.

Federal regulations allow a special exemption for the sale of food and/or beverages that do not meet the competitive food standards for the purpose of conducting an infrequent school-sponsored fundraiser during such periods that schools are in session. No specially exempted fundraiser foods or beverages may be sold in competition with school meals in the food service area during the meal service. Any specially exempted fundraiser must be compliant with applicable board policies and approved in advance by the school principal.

Funds from the sale of competitive foods and beverages shall accrue to the benefit of the school’s food service program, except that funds raised through authorized exempted sales shall accrue to the sponsoring school or approved student organization.

In support of the Boards wellness policy, when foods and beverages are sold to staff (e.g., through vending machines) or to attendees at school-sponsored or community events, schools, students, staff, parents, boosters, or others involved in such sales are encouraged to include water and healthy foods and beverages.

Legal Reference: 7 CFR § 210  
20-A MRS § 6601, 6662

Adopted: 10/18/2023