

General

Each school in the school district shall maintain a quality Child Nutrition Program as a service to students. All meals served shall meet the standards as provided in federal, state, and local law and/or rules and regulations.

The director of the Child Nutrition Program and local school officials shall always seek to provide students with a nutritious and well balanced meal at a nominal charge. The Child Nutrition Program shall be operated in an economically sound manner, but shall not seek to make a profit at students' expense.

Students' participation in the Child Nutrition Program shall be subject to board policy and such rules and regulations as may be developed by local schools.

Responsibility

The local school cafeteria manager shall be directly responsible for the operation of the lunchroom located at his/her school. The district Child Nutrition Director will be responsible for the overall operation of the Child Nutrition Program.

Free and Reduced Price Meals

Free and/or reduced priced meals shall be available to qualified students. It shall be the responsibility and duty of local school principals to disseminate information concerning free and reduced price meals to all students in his/her school.

Each schools approval process for free/reduced applications will be included in the annual State Department of Education application agreement.

Charged Meal Policy

It is the intent of the Winfield City Board of Education to provide an opportunity for every student to eat a nutritious breakfast and lunch during the school day. It is also the intent of the Winfield City Board of Education to comply with all federal program regulations pertaining to the National School Breakfast and National School Lunch programs. Students, employees and guests must remit payment for meals at the time of service. Employees/Guests may not charge meals. Employees may have an active meal account from which to purchase their meals.

Meals must be paid for in advance or at the time of service. Each student will have a meal account for monies to be deposited throughout the year. Students will not be denied a meal. However, no charges will be given for a la carte items or extras. Parents will be notified immediately of any charge on their child's account. However, a nonpublic fund source must be established at each school to cover any uncollected charges. It will be the responsibility of each individual school cafeteria manager to notify the principal of any unpaid debts before the end of the school year.

Students in kindergarten through third grade, as well as special needs students, cannot be denied a meal according to federal law.

Sale Price for Adult Meals

USDA regulations set forth a minimum price that must be charged to non-CNP system employees for meals. This price must, at a minimum, be established at:

The price of a paying student's meal +
The USDA reimbursement for a paid meal +
The value of commodity assistance value per lunch.

Refunds for Advance Payments

Written requests for refunds for advance payment of meals must be made by the parent or guardian. The request must be made at the time a student withdraws.

Offer vs. Serve

Breakfast

In order to participate in OVS, a school must offer at least four food items. The school should ensure that students select at least three food items. Under USDA guidelines, offer vs. serve is optional for all grades. Winfield City Schools allow offer vs. serve to grades K-12 at all schools.

The meal pattern for breakfasts consists of three food components:

- Juice/Fruit/Vegetable
- Grains
- Meats/meat alternates (optional)
- Milk

The age/grade groups for breakfasts are:

- K-5
- 6-8 and
- 9-12.

If a school operates breakfast under OVS:

- At least four food items from the food components must be offered; and
- All students, at any grade level, must select at least three food items in the applicable minimum required serving size.
- OVS only applies to daily selections that meet the required servings for the food items offered for that day.

Lunch

Three food components are required to support a minimally adequate nutritious meal for students as well as to support the amount of Federal reimbursement. Within each component, different choices may be offered and thus there are many combinations that the student may choose. Under USDA guidelines, offer vs. serve is required for grades 9-12. Winfield City Schools allow offer vs. serve to grades K-12 at all schools.

The meal pattern for lunches consists of five food components:

- Fruits
- Vegetables
- Grains
- Meats/meat alternates (m/ma), and
- Fluid milk.

The age/grade groups for lunches are:

- K-5
- 6-8 and
- 9-12.

Under OVS, all students, at any grade level, must take:

- At least 3 of 5 food components **AND**
- One of the choices selected must be at least a ½ cup serving of the fruit or vegetable component or a ½ cup total serving of both fruit and vegetable.

Food from Outside Sources

Students are permitted to bring and consume home prepared meals. Competing foods (restaurants, vending machines, and concessions) are not allowed in the lunchroom. Students are prohibited from bringing carbonated beverages and/or fast food items in their original containers into the school lunchrooms. **Students are not permitted to leave campus during lunch.**

Competitive Food Sales

The sale of competitive foods during meal service times is prohibited. Schools are required to restrict student access to concessions, extra sales, vending and fundraisers that are in direct competition with the Child Nutrition Program during meal service. If income from such sales occurs, the revenue is required to be deposited into the Child Nutrition Account.

All competitive foods must meet the wellness guidelines as set forth by the State of Alabama Department of Education and USDA. See the local wellness policy. The Child Nutrition Director will notify the principals in writing of any changes to the local wellness policy, Smart Snacks guidelines, or state wellness policy.

Disposal of Solid Waste from School Cafeterias

The Board shall prohibit the disbursement of food refuse. In the event of a freezer or cooler outage, spoiled food will be contaminated with bleach and disposed of in proper trash receptacles to prevent improper disbursement of food refuse.

Food Safety Program

For purpose of this policy, each school within the Winfield City School System will implement and maintain a food safety program based on the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) guidelines as required by the United States Department of Agriculture. The Winfield City Board of Education recognizes that the food safety programs in the schools participating in the National School Lunch Program or the School Breakfast Program will conform to the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act. The Board of Education will maintain a food safety program in each school following HACCP guidelines for the preparation and service of school meals served to children.

The Winfield City HACCP Plan will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary by the Child Nutrition Director without requiring approval by the Board of Education.