

Policy EFE Competitive Food Sales/Vending Machines

Issued 3/19

Good nutrition is essential to peak academic performance for students and to long-term health. The district supports nutrition programs and nutrition education as an integral part of a high-quality education.

To ensure that foods served at schools address modern nutritional needs and to protect the health of students, the director of student nutrition services will provide USDA guidelines annually and school principals will exercise control over the sale of non-cafeteria/competitive food at their schools. For purposes of this policy, “competitive food” means any food that is sold in competition with the school breakfast, lunch, supper, or snack programs.

The student nutrition services director or his/her designee will provide annual Smart Snacks guidance, communications, professional development, and training twice a year.

The district will only permit vending machines and the sale of competitive foods in schools and programs where middle and high school students are served.

Schools will only operate vending machines and canteens accessible to students that are Smart Snacks compliant.

Schools may offer or sell other non-cafeteria/competitive foods to students on campus during the school day. Items sold must meet the nutritional guidelines as outlined in the district’s wellness policy and in accordance with the United States Department of Agriculture’s guidance for Smart Snacks. Additionally, school canteens must comply with local and state regulatory agency laws and guidance for food safety in retail establishments.

The principal is responsible for ensuring that foods from vending machines and/or other non-cafeteria/competitive foods are sold in compliance with federal guidelines, state regulations, and district policy.

The board authorizes the superintendent or his/her designee to close a canteen or discontinue the sale of competitive foods if not properly operated.

Adopted 5/23/00; Revised 9/8/15, 3/12/19; Reviewed 05/11/21

Legal References:

Federal Law:

Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, [Pub. L. No. 111-296](#), 124 Stat. 3183.

S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:

[Section 59-10-310](#), *et seq.* - Nutrition standards.

Code of Federal Regulations, as amended:

National School Lunch Program, [7 C.F.R. § 210.10](#).

School Breakfast Program, [7 C.F.R. § 220.8](#)

S.C. State Board of Education Regulations:

[R43-168](#) - Nutrition standards for elementary (K-5) school food service meals and competitive foods.

Other References:

USDA Smart Snacks in School Regulation.

2015 SC “Smart Snacks” and Exempt Fundraisers Memorandum.

Richland County School District One