FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS

The Board of Trustees recognizes that adequate nutrition is essential to the development, health, and learning of all students. The Superintendent/Principal or designee shall facilitate and encourage the participation of students from low-income families in the district's food service program.

(cf. 3551 - Food Service Operations/Cafeteria Fund)
(cf. 3552 - Summer Meal Program)
(cf. 5030 - Student Wellness)
(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)
(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)
(cf. 6177 - Summer Learning Programs)

The district shall provide at least one nutritionally adequate meal each school day, free of charge or at a reduced price, for students whose families meet federal eligibility criteria. (Education Code 49550, 49552)

To provide optimal nutrition and reduce the administrative burden of food service operations, the Superintendent/Principal or designee shall assess the eligibility of district schools to provide breakfast and/or lunch free of charge to all students at the school under a federally funded universal meal service provision, such as Provision 2 or the Community Eligibility Provision, pursuant to 42 USC 1759a.

If any district school meets the criteria for a "very high poverty school" through its eligibility for the federal Community Eligibility Provision reimbursement rate pursuant to 42 USC 1759a, the district shall apply to the California Department of Education (CDE) to operate a universal meal service, unless the Board adopts a resolution stating that the district is unable to comply with this requirement due to fiscal hardship. The resolution shall be part of the public agenda for at least two consecutive Board meetings, first as an information item and then as an action item. The Board shall reconsider the resolution at least once every four years. (Education Code 49564; 42 USC 1759a)

The Superintendent/Principal or designee shall ensure that meals provided through the free and reduced-price meals program meet applicable state and/or federal nutritional standards in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

(cf. 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)

Schools participating in the Special Milk Program pursuant to 42 USC 1772 shall provide milk at no charge to students who meet federal eligibility criteria for free or reduced-price meals.

The Board shall approve, and shall submit to the CDE for approval, a plan that ensures that students eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals and milk are not treated differently from other students. (Education Code 49557)

FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS (continued)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 3555 - Nutrition Program Compliance)
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

Confidentiality/Release of Records

All applications and records related to eligibility for the free and reduced-price meal program shall be confidential and may not be released except as provided by law and authorized by the Board or pursuant to a court order. (Education Code 49558)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

The Board authorizes designated employees to use individual records pertaining to student eligibility for the free and reduced-price meal program for the following purposes: (Education Code 49558)

1.   Disaggregation of academic achievement data

(cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)

2.   Identification of students eligible for services under the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act pursuant to 20 USC 6301-6576

(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)

If a student transfers from the district to another district, charter school, county office of education program, or private school, the Superintendent/Principal or designee may share the student's meal eligibility information to the other educational agency to assist in the continuation of the student's meal benefits.

The Superintendent/Principal or designee may release the name and eligibility status of a student participating in the free or reduced-price meal program to another school district, charter school, or county office of education that is serving a student living in the same household for purposes related to program eligibility and data used in local control funding formula calculations. (Education Code 49558)

The Superintendent/Principal or designee may release the name and eligibility status of a student participating in the free or reduced-price meal program to the Superintendent/Principal of Public Instruction for purposes of determining allocations under the local control funding formula and for assessing accountability of that funding. (Education Code 49558)

The Superintendent/Principal or designee may release information on the school lunch program application to the local agency that determines eligibility for participation in the

FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS (continued)

Medi-Cal program if the student has been approved for free meals or, if included in the agreement with the local agency, for reduced-price meals. He/she also may release information on the school lunch application to the local agency that determines eligibility for CalFresh or another nutrition assistance program authorized under 7 CFR 210.1 if the student has been approved for free or reduced-price meals. Information may be released for these purposes only if the student's parent/guardian consents to the sharing of information and the district has entered into a memorandum of understanding with the local agency which, at a minimum, includes the roles and responsibilities of the district and local agency and the process for sharing the information. After sharing information with the local agency for purposes of determining eligibility for that program, no further information shall be shared unless otherwise authorized by law. (Education Code 49557.2, 49557.3, 49558)

(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
48980 Notice at beginning of term
49430-49434 Pupil Nutrition, Health, and Achievement Act of 2001
49490-49494 School breakfast and lunch programs
49500-49505 School meals
49510-49520 Nutrition
49530-49536 Child Nutrition Act of 1974
49547-49548.3 Comprehensive nutrition service
49550-49564.5 Meals for needy students
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5
15510 Mandatory meals for needy students
15530-15535 Nutrition education
15550-15565 School lunch and breakfast programs
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
1232g Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act
6301-6576 Elementary and Secondary Education Act
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42
1751-1769j School lunch program
1771-1791 Child nutrition, especially:
1773 School breakfast program
CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 7
210.1-210.31 National School Lunch Program
220.10-220.21 National School Breakfast Program
245.1-245.13 Determination of eligibility for free and reduced-price meals and free milk

Management Resources: (see next page)

FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS (continued)

Management Resources:
    <u>*CSBA PUBLICATIONS*</u>
    <u>*Monitoring for Success: A Guide for Assessing and Strengthening Student Wellness Policies,*</u> *2012*
    <u>*Student Wellness: A Healthy Food and Physical Activity Policy Resource Guide,*</u> *2012*
    <u>*CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS*</u>
    <u>*Direct Certification Implementation Checklist Free and Reduced-Price Meals: Universal Meal Service,*</u>
    Nutrition Services Division Management Bulletin SNP-01-2018, January 2018
    <u>*U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PUBLICATIONS*</u>
    <u>*Eligibility Manual for School Meals: Determining and Verifying Eligibility,*</u> *July 2015*
    <u>*U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE PUBLICATIONS*</u> *(continued)*
    <u>*Provision 2 Guidance: National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs,*</u> *Summer 2002*
    <u>*WEB SITES*</u>
    CSBA: http://www.csba.org
    California Department of Education, Nutrition Services Division: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu
    California Food Policy Advocates: https://cfpa.net
    California Project LEAN (Leaders Encouraging Activity and Nutrition):
    http://www.californiaprojectlean.org
    U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service: http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd

Policy   **LAYTONVILLE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**
adopted: 11/7/19   Laytonville, California