

**Disclaimer:**

**The portion of this policy regarding Food Service for District Employees is for informational purposes only. If you have questions about taxable fringe benefits and how this applies to your district employees, please contact your district tax advisor or legal counsel.**

**Dietrich School District No. 314**

**NON INSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS**

**8220**

Food Services

The District supports the philosophy of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs and shall provide wholesome, appetizing and nutritious meals for children in the District's schools. Because of potential liability to the District, the food services program shall not accept donations of food without the approval of the Board. Should the Board approve a food donation, the Superintendent shall establish inspection and handling procedures for the food and determine that the provisions of all state and local laws have been met before selling the food as part of the school meals.

**Commodities**

The District may use food commodities made available under the Federal Food Commodity Program for school meals.

**Qualifications of School Food service Staff**

Qualified nutrition professionals will administer the school meal programs. As part of the school district's responsibility to operate a food service program, continuing professional development opportunities may be provided to select District nutrition professionals. These development programs should include appropriate certification and/or training programs for child nutrition directors, school nutrition managers, and cafeteria workers, according to their levels of responsibility.

**Free and Reduced Price Food Services**

The District shall provide free and reduced price meals to students according to the terms of the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs and the laws, rules and regulations of the state. The District shall inform parents of the eligibility standards for free or reduced price meals. Identity of students receiving free or reduced price meals will be confidential in accordance with the guidelines for the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs. A parent has the right to appeal any decision with respect to his/her application for free or reduced price food services to a designated hearing official.

The Board may establish programs whereby meals may be provided in the District in accordance with guidelines for the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs.

The amount charged for such meals shall be sufficient to cover all costs of the meals, including preparation labor, food costs, handling costs, utility costs, and equipment depreciation costs.

Every effort is to be made to eliminate any social stigma attached to, and prevent the overt identification of, students who are eligible for free and reduced-price school meals. Toward this end, the availability of school meals to all students will be promoted and electronic identification of students and payment systems utilized where feasible.

### **Food Service for District Employees**

District employees may purchase meals through the District's food service program. District employees should not receive any free or reduced meal through the District's food service program. Any free or reduced meal to an employee will be considered a taxable fringe benefit to the employee receiving the free or reduced meal. This taxable fringe benefit will be in addition to the employee's salary and will be reported on the individual employee's W-4.

Legal Reference: 42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq. National School Lunch Act

#### Policy History:

Adopted on: April 2018

Revised on: