

Policy 3552: Summer Meal Program

The Governing Board recognizes that child nutrition programs have a positive and direct impact upon children's well-being and achievement. To help students and other children in the community remain well nourished throughout the summer vacation, the district shall sponsor a summer meal program as approved by the California Department of Education (CDE).

The district may apply to the CDE to provide meals to children during any extended break in a year-round school schedule. (42 USC 1761; 7 CFR 225.2, 225.6, 225.14)

Between October and April, or at any time or school on a year-round schedule, the district may serve meals at a non-school site in cases of unanticipated school closures, such as a natural disaster, unscheduled major building repair, court order related to school safety or other issues, labor-management dispute, or similar cause as approved by the CDE. (42 USC 1761; 7 CFR 225.6)

The Superintendent or designee shall recommend to the Governing Board one or more sites for meal services based on state and federal program criteria and an assessment of family and community needs. When feasible, the Superintendent or designee shall involve local governmental agencies, food banks, and/or community organizations in identifying suitable site locations. The site(s) shall be approved by the CDE before meal service is initiated.

The summer meal program may be offered in conjunction with educational enrichment or recreational activities in order to encourage participation in other wellness and learning opportunities.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and coordinate outreach and promotional activities to inform parents/guardians and the community about the availability of the summer meal program and its location(s) and hours.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain accurate records of all meals served and shall ensure the timely submission of reimbursement claims in accordance with state procedures.

The Superintendent or designee shall report to the Governing Board every two years regarding program implementation, number of participants at each site, feedback from participating children and their parents/guardians regarding menus and service, and program costs. As needed, the Governing Board shall direct the Superintendent or designee to identify program modifications to increase program quality or children's access to meal services.