NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS

Food Services

The district supports the philosophy of the National School Lunch Program and shall provide wholesome and nutritious lunches for children in the district's schools. The board authorizes the superintendent to administer the food services program, provided that any decision to enter into a contract with a private food service agency shall require the approval of the board. Expenditures for food supplies shall not exceed the estimated revenues.

Because of the potential liability of the district, the food services program shall not accept donations of food other than as provided in policy 8210 without the express 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 lunch menu.

Legal References: RCW 28A.235.120

Lunchrooms--Establishment and operation--Personnel for--Agreement for Food, Drugs, Cosmetics, and Poisons

69.04

Food Service

Many districts attempt to operate the food service program on a "cost" basis. In a larger program, the district can often set meal charges to cover both direct and indirect costs, e.g., utilities, custodial wages, etc. Any losses in the program must come from basic education or special levy support. This subsidization benefits only the participants and can be criticized on that basis. Since this service can be particularly sensitive, the financial status of the program should be reported to the board on at least a quarterly basis.