

SANDWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

No Food in the Classroom Policy

1.0 General Guidelines/Statement

The Sandwich Public Schools recognizes the increasing prevalence of life threatening allergies (LTA's) in students, and the high percentage of students who are overweight in our schools, as indicated in the district's *Annual Status Report (2007-2010)*. The rationale for this protocol is to assure the safety of students with LTA's, and to promote wellness and healthy eating habits in students during the school day. The school day is defined as the hours of the day that students attend school for their education program(s).

- 1.1 **Non curriculum related classroom based parties and celebrations** (i.e. birthday parties) are food free. Food brought in from home by students or parents for parties or celebrations is not allowed in the classroom, and will be sent home with the student or parent/guardian at the end of the school day.
- 1.2 The use of **food as a reward or incentive** during the school day is prohibited, except as indicated in a student's Individualized Education Plan, 504 Plan, or Individualized Health Plan.
- 1.3 Inclusion of **food for curriculum instruction** requires consultation (at least 2 days in advance of the planned event) with the school nurse, and the approval of the building principal.
- 1.4 The use of **food for the purpose of fundraising** is prohibited.

References: MA Law "An Act Relative to School Nutrition (H4459), MDPH Comprehensive School Health Manual, 2007,(Volume 1), MA DESE *Managing Life Threatening Food Allergies in the Schools*, 2002, SPS *Annual Status Report (2007-2010)*, SPS *Wellness Policy (JLE)*,

Approved by School Committee: June 20, 2012