

**BOARD POLICY
NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS**

Teacher to Student Incentive

Children learn preferences for foods made available to them, including those that are unhealthy. There are many disadvantages to using food as a reward:

- It undermines nutrition education being taught in the school environment.
- It encourages over-consumption of foods high in added sugar and fat; and
- It teaches children to eat when they're not hungry as a reward to themselves.

Teachers are encouraged to consider non-food items as a teacher to student incentive. Should teachers decide to use food items as an incentive, they are expected to adhere to the District Nutritional Standards.

Guidelines--Alternatives to Using Food as a Reward

Zero-Cost Alternatives

- Sit by friends
- Read outdoors
- Have extra art time
- Have an extra recess
- Read to a younger class
- Listen to music while working
- Earn play money for privileges
- Eat lunch outdoors with the class
- Eat lunch with a teacher or principal
- Dance to favorite music in the classroom
- Get "free choice" time at the end of the day
- Listen with a headset to a book on audiotape
- Have a teacher read a special book to the class
- Watch a video
- Teach the class
- Enjoy class outdoors
- Play a computer game
- Make deliveries to the office
- Play a favorite game or puzzle
- Walk with a teacher during lunch
- Be a helper in another classroom

Low-Cost Alternatives

- Select a paperback book
- Enter a drawing for donated prizes
- Take a trip to the treasure box (non-food items)
- Get stickers, pencils, and other school supplies
- Receive a video store or movie theater coupon
- Get a set of flash cards printed from a computer
- Receive a "mystery pack (notepad, folder, sports, cards, etc.)"

Policy History:

Adopted: June 19, 2007

Revised:

Reviewed: December 8, 2009