

## **Business and Noninstructional Operations**

### **FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS**

**BP 3553**

The Governing Board recognizes that adequate nutrition is essential to child development and learning and that some families may be unable to provide breakfast and lunch for their children. In accordance with law, the district shall provide nutritionally adequate free and reduced price meals for students whose families meet federal eligibility criteria.

The Superintendent or designee shall recommend for Board approval a plan that ensures that students eligible to receive free or reduced price meals and milk are not treated differently from other students or easily identified by their peers.

*(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)*

Upon approval of the Board, this plan shall be submitted to the California Department of Education for approval. (Education Code 49557)

All applications and records related to eligibility for the free or reduced price meal program shall be confidential except as provided by law. (Education Code 49558)

In accordance with law, the Board authorizes designated employees to use individual records pertaining to student eligibility for any free and reduced price meal program for the purpose of: (Education Code 49558)

1. Disaggregation of academic achievement data
2. Identification of students eligible for school choice and supplemental educational services in any school identified for program improvement

*(cf. 5125 - Student Records)*

*(cf. 6171 - Title I Programs)*

*(cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)*

The Board further authorizes the release of information on the school lunch program application to the local agency that determines Medi-Cal program eligibility, provided that the student is approved for free meals and the parent/guardian consents to the sharing of information as provided by Education Code 49557.2.

#### ***Legal References:***

##### ***EDUCATION CODE***

*48980 Notice at beginning of term*

*49490-49494 School breakfast and lunch programs*

*49500-49505 School meals*

*49510-49520 Nutrition*

*49530-49536 Child Nutrition Act of 1974*

*49547-49548.3 Comprehensive nutrition service*

*49550-49560 Meals for needy students*

**CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5**

*15510 Mandatory meals for needy students*

*15530-15535 Nutrition education*

*15550-15565 School lunch and breakfast programs*

**UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20**

*1232g Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act*

*6301-6514 Title I programs*

**UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42**

*1751-1769 National lunch programs*

*1771-1791 Child nutrition*

**CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 7**

*245.1-245.13 Determination of eligibility for free and reduced price meals*

**Management Resources:**

**CDE LEGAL ADVISORIES**

*0325.98 Education Code Section 49558 LO: 1-98*

**CSBA PUBLICATIONS**

*Healthy Food Policy Resource Guide, 2003*

**USDA PUBLICATIONS**

*Team Nutrition, Food and Nutrition Services, Changing the Scene, Improving the School Nutrition Environment: A Guide to Local Action, 2000*

**WEB SITES**

*CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>*

*California Department of Education, Nutrition Division: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/nu>*

*California Healthy Kids Resource Center: <http://www.californiahealthykids.org>*

*California Project LEAN: <http://www.californiaprojectlean.org>*

*U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd>*

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MORGAN HILL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Morgan Hill, California