Purpose
To ensure all food and beverages available for sale and/or provided to students on the school campus during the official school day support healthy eating and shall meet or exceed federal and state nutrition standards.

Background
Competitive foods are all foods and beverages sold and/or provided to students outside of the reimbursable meal program. This includes á la carte items, vending machines, and school stores.

The Maryland Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School (Attachment A) sets the nutrition standard for competitive foods.

Procedure

A. The Office of Food and Nutrition Services (OFNS) administrative and operations staff will implement the nutrition standards on the school campus.

   1. Timing in effect from 12:01 a.m. through 30 minutes after the end of the official school day.
   2. Includes cafeteria á la carte food and beverage items.
   3. School administration and wellness liaisons are informed that operating vending machines are to use a timing device that prohibits student access from 12:01 a.m. to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day.
   4. School administration and wellness liaisons are informed that items sold in school stores adhere to this nutrition standard.
   5. Nutrition standards are applied to food prepared and sold by culinary education programs.

B. Fundraising

   1. Fundraising activities by students is prohibited during the school day as outlined in Superintendent’s Rule 3125, School Activity Funds.
   2. Giving away food and suggesting a donation is considered a fundraiser and is prohibited during the school day.
C. Other

1. Nutrition standards do not apply to:
   - Foods and beverages sold 30 minutes after the end of the official school day (examples include concerts, sporting events, school plays, on weekends, and at off-campus events).
   - Food fundraisers intended for home consumption that are sold 30 minutes after the end of the official school day.

2. Nutrition standards do not impact the culinary education program’s curriculum in schools, the foods sold to adults/teachers at any time, or to students outside of the official school day.

D. The Baltimore County Department of Health prohibits food prepared in unlicensed facilities or by individuals, i.e., home-baked or cooked goods, to be sold or offered to the students or the public on school premises.

References: United States Department of Agriculture, Local School Wellness Policy – Final Rule, USDA School Wellness Policy
Baltimore County Public Schools, Board Policies and Superintendent’s Rules 5470, Wellness, and 3310, Food and Nutrition Services