

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF
DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1**

**REGARDING PARTICIPATION IN THE
NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Douglas County Board of Education subscribes to the belief that students learn best when they receive proper nutrition; and

WHEREAS, the Obama Administration's U.S. Department of Agriculture has promulgated onerous regulations that took effect this summer regarding the content of federally-reimbursable food choices that are so unappealing (artificial cheese) and dissatisfying (350 calories per midday meal), that across the country, students are opting to forego the school meals altogether; and

WHEREAS, not only do the Federal regulations cover the school meals, they also limit any competitive sales of food on school grounds. These competitive food sales include all of the lunch a la carte offerings provided by DCSD Nutrition Services and DCSD's innovative partnerships with local and national companies, as well as school stores, vending machines and any food-related student fund raisers 30 minutes before and after school; and

WHEREAS, without attractive, fulfilling and nutritious meal options, particularly at the high school level, students will increasingly opt to find their meals off campus where there is no opportunity to influence the nutritional choices made by students. Currently, while elementary and middle school students primarily purchase reimbursable school lunches, 95% of high school students purchase lunches a la carte;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

1. That the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent or her designee to suspend, at the Douglas County high schools only, participation in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) for FY 2014-2015, as recommended by staff; and
2. That the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent or her designee to continue to provide and develop nutritious and appealing and affordable school lunch choices for all students, including for those who have limited financial resources; and
3. That Board of Education encourages the continued exploration of innovative partnerships with local and national business to provide nutritious and appealing food choices for the students in all of our schools; and
4. That the Board of Education favors local decision-making over central planning dictates from Washington D.C. The local decisions should first be made by parents, and then by locally-elected school board, only if necessary. This local decision-making includes decisions regarding the provision of school lunches; and

5. That the Board of Education firmly supports the Superintendent and her designees in negotiating with the Obama Administration's U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Colorado Department of Education to craft a locally-developed program of school lunches for all students, elementary, middle and high school, that are as appealing to our students as possible to make them want to choose school lunches over other options available to them, while maintaining strong nutritional standards that put our students in the best position to learn in our schools.

Approved this 15th day of July, 2014, by a vote of 5-0

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By: _____


Kevin P. Larsen, President
Board of Education

Attest:

By: 
Secretary, Board of Education