



SUFFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Suffield, Connecticut

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**DATE:** April 1, 2021

**TO:** Timothy Van Tasel, Superintendent

**FROM:** Bill Hoff

**RE:** Healthy Food Certification for 2020-21 and 2021-2022

Connecticut General Statutes (Section 10-215f) requires Board of Educations to annually certify whether or not the school district will follow the Connecticut Nutrition Standards for all foods sold to students by July 1. The program provides \$0.10 per reimbursable lunch if the district follows the Standards. Suffield has participated in the program since 2015-2016.

Accepting the Healthy Food Certification requires the district to apply the Connecticut Nutrition Standards to all sources of food sales on school premises at all times including, but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias and any fundraising activities sold to students on school premises. However, there is an exemption for events which occur after school hours such as plays or athletic events.

Overall implementing this program had little impact on our school fundraising programs and provides additional revenue to the food service program. I recommend the Board certify our participation in the program for 2021-2022 with an exemption for events after school hours.

The Board did certify our participation for 2020-2021 at its meeting on June 1, 2020. However, CSDE is requiring us to re-vote on the motion to separate it into separate motions, one to approve participation and one to approve the exemption.

The board will need to approve the four motions as attached.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

# Healthy Food Certification Participation

## 2020-21

- 1. Motion language for healthy food option:** Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the Suffield Board of Education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups.
- 2. Motion language for food and beverage exemptions:** The Suffield Board of Education will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store during the period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held.

## 2021-22

- 3. Motion language for healthy food option:** Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the Suffield Board of Education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups.
- 4. Motion language for food and beverage exemptions:** The Suffield Board of Education will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store during the period of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held.