

Fundraising Guidelines



Ultimately fundraising should support the goals and needs of the schools and students. Whether it's upgrades to school building or grounds, sending students on a unique educational field trip, or the local parent organization holding a carnival, fundraising is organized around a common goal.

Fort Worth ISD policy (FJ (LOCAL)) has strict guidelines for fundraising, and this document will provide an overview and help answer common questions.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Fundraising activities must have prior approval from the principal and be under the supervision of a project sponsor or organization.
2. Student participation with approved fundraising activities should not interfere with classroom instruction.
3. With principal approval, students should be permitted to participate in fund drives (i.e., canned food, clothes, toys) for non-school charitable organizations, nonprofit entities, or relief efforts related to natural disasters (e.g., hurricanes, tornadoes, tsunamis, and the like).

FUNDRAISING WITH FOOD

Using the Smart Snacks in School Standards allows schools to offer healthier snack foods to children, while limiting junk food. The FWISD Local Wellness Policy (FFA(LOCAL)) also outlines District rules relating to the health and wellness of students. Both the Smart Snacks in School rule and District policy have guidelines regarding fundraising with food.

The Smart Snacks in School Standards apply to any foods sold to students during the school day on the school campus. District policy states the school day begins at midnight and extends until 30 minutes after the official school day ends. This includes all foods sold as fundraisers.

The only exemption is to use of one of the campus' three designated exemption days for the fundraiser. Each campus has a maximum of three exemption days per school year. The school must send Child Nutrition Services and the Health Services Department these days in advance. Be sure to work with your principal to determine if any exemption days will be used.

Food sold as fundraisers and meant for immediate consumption are also considered competitive foods. There are specific rules around competitive foods at elementary, middle school, and high school.

Elementary

- There should be no competitive food sales during the school day.

Middle School

- There should be no competitive food sales until 30 minutes after the last lunch period, and all sales must be compliant with Smart Snacks rules.

High School

- There should be no sales during lunch where school meals are being purchased or eaten, and all sales must be compliant with Smart Snacks rules.

For additional Smart Snacks resources, visit <https://healthymeals.fns.usda.gov/smartsnacks>.