

Business Requiring Action

b. Presentation and approval of Connecticut Healthy Food Certification (HFC)

The Healthy Food Certification (HFC) statute (C.G.S. Section 10-215f) requires that each local board of education or governing authority (the Board) for public schools participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) each year must certify whether all food items sold to students (separately from reimbursable meals) will or will not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS). The Board must complete a vote on the required motion language by July 1, 2026, or the Board will not be eligible for HFC during SY 2026-27 (July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027). Required healthy food option vote for all Boards of Education, which implements the healthy food option of C.G.S. Section 10-215f. The motion and board-approved meeting minutes must include the exact language below:

The motions below must be read exactly as written.

Motion/Vote 1:

Required vote for participation in healthy food option of HFC Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the Goodwin University Magnet School System 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, 2026, through June 30, 2027. 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.

Motion/Vote 2:

The Goodwin University Magnet School System 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. 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 and must be the same place as the food and beverage sales.