

Eugene School District 4J

Healthy Parties Guidelines

These healthy snack guidelines apply to food distributed during the school day as part of a celebration or school party.

Encouraged Beverages

Kindergarten–5th Grade: Beverages limited to water and the following:

- Fruit or vegetable juice, provided the beverage item is not more than 8 ounces, is 100% juice with no added sweeteners and contains no more than 120 calories per 8 ounces.
- Milk or a nutritionally equivalent milk alternative, provided the beverage item is not more than 8 ounces, is fat-free or low-fat and, if flavored, contains no more than 150 calories per 8 ounces.

6th–8th Grade: Beverages limited to water and the following:

- Fruit or vegetable juice, provided the beverage item is not more than 10 ounces, is 100% juice with no added sweeteners and contains no more than 150 calories).
- Milk or a nutritionally equivalent milk alternative, provided the beverage item is not more than 10 ounces, is fat-free or low-fat and, if flavored, contains no more than 190 calories).

9th–12th Grade: Beverages limited to water and the following:

- Fruit or vegetable juice, provided the beverage item is not more than 12 ounces, is 100% juice with no added sweeteners and contains no more than 180 calories.
- Milk or a nutritionally equivalent milk alternative, provided the beverage item is not more than 12 ounces, is fat-free or low-fat and, if flavored, contains no more than 225 calories.
- A no-calorie or low-calorie beverage if the beverage contains no more than 10 calories per 8 ounces, excluding beverages defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) as “Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value” (e.g., soda water).
- A beverage that is not more than 12 ounces and contains no more than 100 calories, excluding beverages defined by the USDA as “Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value.”

Not allowed: Beverages of Minimal Nutritional Value as defined by the USDA (soda water or “pop”).

Encouraged Foods

Food items that do not contain any trans fat and have no more than:

- 35% of its calories from fat (excluding legumes, nuts, seeds, nonfried vegetables, cheese, eggs and other nut butters) and 10% of its calories from saturated (excluding nuts, eggs and cheese)
- 35% of its weight from added sugars (does not apply to fruit and vegetables)
- 350 mg of sodium per serving for bread, sweets and salty snacks; 480 mg for nutrient-dense snacks, such as nuts, seeds, fruits, vegetables, dairy; 530 mg for pre-packaged entrees, such as “hot pockets,” soups, burritos; 600 mg for freshly made entrees.

Portion Sizes

Portion sizes should be reasonable given the age of the student. Appropriate portion sizes for beverages are noted above under “Encouraged Beverages.”

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Suggestions for Healthy Foods for Snacks and Parties

- Fresh fruits and vegetables
- Dips based on low-fat yogurt or sour cream (be aware of sugar and salt content)
- Canned fruits (preferably packed in natural fruit juices instead of syrups)
- Dried fruits
- Trail mix, chex mix, or popcorn-based snack mix (be aware of products that contain nuts or nut byproducts and sodium content)
- Granola bars (be aware of products that contain nuts or nut byproducts)
- Sunflower or pumpkin seeds
- Yogurt or soy-gurt
- Jerky
- Ritz chips
- Baked chips (be aware that Baked Cheetos and SunChips are higher in fat and sodium than other baked chip varieties)
- Salsa, guacamole, bean dip and fruit salsa
- Pita bread or pita chips and hummus dip
- Whole-grain cereals (be aware of sugar content)
- Whole-grain or multigrain crackers and cheese (cheese made with 2% milk is better)
- 100% frozen fruit juice bars
- Frozen yogurt
- Fruit smoothies (preferably yogurt- or sorbet- based)
- Whole-grain and fruit/vegetable breads and muffins: banana, zucchini, carrot or oatmeal bread, bran muffins, etc.
- Other fruit-based desserts: fruit and yogurt parfaits, strawberry shortcake, mixed berries with whipped cream, baked apples with granola topping
- Fruit or pretzels dipped in a yogurt-based coating: strawberries, raisins, cherries etc.
- Nabisco 100-calorie packs (Wheat Thins, Cheese Nips, Chips Ahoy, Oreo)
- Quaker Multigrain Minis (Honey Graham, Cinnamon Sugar)
- Graham cracker-based items: Honey Maid Squares, Teddy Grahams, Animal Crackers, Goldfish Giant Grahams etc. (individual packets and honey flavored is better)
- Nutrigrain bars
- Pretzels (low salt is better)
- Bagels (whole grain is better)
- Tortilla roll-ups: meat and cheese, cream cheese and salsa, etc. (cut into finger-size pieces)

The 4J catering service offers appealing and healthy classroom snacks and pizza parties, and your order supports the district's nutrition services program. Visit www.4j.lane.edu/nutrition/catering or call 541-790-7654 for menus and more.