

FOOD AND NUTRITION PROCEDURES

Miami-Dade County Public Schools



Subject: **SCHEDULING OF LUNCH PERIODS**

PURPOSE

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide assistance in scheduling lunch periods that allow all students the opportunity to consume a nutritious school lunch.

GUIDELINES

Length of Lunch Period

- A. Schedule lunch periods so that students have sufficient time to eat in a relaxed, pleasant atmosphere.
- B. Where possible, avoid lengthy waiting periods during lunch.
- C. Staggered class dismissal times will greatly assist in reducing waiting periods.

Number of Lunch Periods

Per [School Board Policy 8500 – Food Services](#), the principal and local school staff are responsible for scheduling students for the greatest participation in the school food service program.

It is recommended, wherever possible, to schedule three (3) or more lunch periods to make lunches available to the greatest number of students. The standard for designing dining rooms is to accommodate one-third of the programmed enrollment of the school. High meal participation is essential in providing lunches at a minimum price to students.

NOTE

When lunch periods are scheduled to begin prior to 10:00 a.m., the Department of Food and Nutrition must be informed to comply with Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services regulations.

For Action By: Principals, Food Service Managers and Satellite Assistants

Refer Questions to: Department of Food and Nutrition

*Revised: June 2003 (1st), July 2006, July 2012, July 2016
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