

Change to State Nutritional Policy Affects All HISD Schools

Sales, distribution of Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value now forbidden until after last class

To fight childhood obesity and help students make better decisions when choosing their meals, HISD began restricting students' access to **Foods of Minimum Nutritional Value** (FMNV) on campus in 2003, and offering more healthful selections as snack options to encourage better eating habits.

Now, the State of Texas' nutritional policy has changed to further limit students' access to FMNV, and as of **August 1, 2009**, all HISD campuses must comply with the following restrictions:

- **Schools may not serve or provide access for students** to FMNV or any other forms of candy **at any time anywhere** on the school premises until the end of the last scheduled class.
- **Foods and beverages that qualify as FMNV may not be sold or given away** to students on school premises by school administrators or staff (principals, coaches, teachers, etc.), students or student groups, parents or parent groups, guest speakers, or any other person, company, or organization.
- **Restricted FMNV include:** soda water, water ices, chewing gum, and certain candies (hard candies, jellies and gums, marshmallow candies, fondant, licorice, spun candy, and candy-coated popcorn).
- **Exceptions may be made for:** 1) school nurses using FMNVs during the course of providing health care to individual students, 2) students with special needs whose Individualized Education Program indicates the use of an FMNV or candy for behavior modification (or other suitable need), or 3) up to three school events per year (as determined and approved by the principal).

Please note that violations of these restrictions may result in the imposition of financial penalties on schools by the Texas Department of Agriculture.

To see a copy of the full text of the Texas Public School Nutrition Policy, visit www.squaremeals.org.

Questions may be directed to 1-888-TEX-KIDS (839-5437) or Squaremeals@agr.state.tx.us.

For more information about HISD's student health and wellness policies, please visit the [Health & Wellness section](#) of the [Parents & Students channel](#).