

Hanover Public Schools

Matthew A. Ferron
Superintendent of Schools

Deborah St. Ives
Assistant Superintendent



Thomas R. Raab, Ed.D.
Business Manager

Joan Woodward
Student Services Director

MEMORANDUM

To: Hanover School Committee
From: Thomas Raab, Business Manager
Cc: Matthew Ferron, Superintendent of Schools
Date: February 3, 2016
Re: Offer Versus Serve Policy Addition (EFA)

Offer versus Serve (OVS) is a provision in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) that allows students to decline some of the food components offered. The goals of OVS are to reduce food waste in the school meals programs while permitting students to decline foods they do not intend to eat.

Currently, the Hanover Public Schools follows the guidelines of the Offer Versus Serve provision of the National School Lunch Program; however, it has not been formally adopted as a policy in the School Committee Policy Manual nor is it written in the School Nutrition Department Policy and Procedures Manual.

As a result, there are two documents attached to this memo. The **first** document is the proposed policy recommended by the National School Lunch Program. This document requires a vote of the School Committee. The **second** document is a written procedure to be included in the School Nutrition Department Policy and Procedures Manual. The second document does not require a vote of the School Committee and is intended to provide the committee with a fuller understanding of the OVS guidelines.

Thank for you for your consideration in this matter. I respectfully request a discussion and vote on the attached proposed policy EFA.

Hanover Public Schools

OFFER VERSUS SERVE

Offer versus serve (OVS) is a provision in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) that allows students to decline some of the food components offered. The goals of OVS are to reduce food waste in the school meals programs while permitting students to decline foods they do not intend to eat.

Hanover Public Schools follows the OVS regulations in grades K-12 for lunch and grades 5-12 for breakfast as determined by 7CFR 210.10 and 7 CFR 220.8. Procedures for implementation are incorporated into school nutrition department policy and procedures manual.

LEGAL REFS.: For the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), OFFER VERSUS SERVE (OVS) is established under section 9(a) (3) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act. OVS was extended to the School Breakfast Program (SBP) in 1985 under section 4(e) (2) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966. The regulations on OVS for the NSLP are found at 7 CFR 210.10 (e) and for the SBP at 7 CFR 220.8 (e).

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OFFER VERSUS SERVE PROCEDURE

Offer versus serve (OVS) is a provision in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) that allows students to decline some of the food components offered. The goals of OVS are to reduce food waste in the school meals programs while permitting students to decline foods they do not intend to eat.

Hanover Public Schools follows the OVS regulations in grades K-12 for lunch and grades 5-12 for breakfast as determined by 7CFR 210.10 and 7 CFR 220.8.

Offer versus Serve Procedure for **Breakfast**:

- OVS is optional at breakfast for all age/grade groups
- Schools must offer the 3 required breakfast components: Fruit/Vegetable, Grains (or grains with optional Meat/Meat Alternate), and Milk
- For OVS, schools must offer 4 food items to choose from. A food item is a required serving size from one of the 3 components.
- A student must select at least 3 items in the required serving size. One of the components must be either $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of fruit or $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of vegetable or a combination to total $\frac{1}{2}$ cup in order to be a reimbursable breakfast.
- If choices of food items within the components are offered, the menu must indicate what choices or combination of choices the student may select.

Offer versus Serve Procedure for **Lunch**:

- OVS is required for high schools
- OVS is optional for middle and elementary schools
- Schools must always offer the 5 required lunch components: Fruit, Vegetables, Grains, Meat/Meat Alternate and Milk.
- A student must select at least 3 components in the required servings. One of the components must be at least $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of fruit or a $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of vegetable, or a combination of fruit and vegetable to total $\frac{1}{2}$ cup.