

WESTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, June 16, 2014

Weston Middle School Library Resource Center

Regular Session 7:30 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER, VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

Philip Schaefer, Chairperson

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. RECOGNITION

1. The Board of Education will Honor Retirees

Motion

Dr. Palmer, Superintendent of Schools, and Mr. Schaefer, Board of Education Chairperson, will recognize this year's retiring certified staff: Jean Bennett, Sal LaRusso, and Jane Rackliffe.

2. The Connecticut Association of Schools Scholar Leader Award

Motion

Ms. Watkins, Weston Middle School Principal, will present Jane Paknia and Max Chayet, recipients of the CAS Scholar Leader Award.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, *pages 1-8*

Motion

The Board will vote to approve the minutes from May 19 and 22.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Information

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Resignations, *pages 9-10*

Motion

2. Discussion and Vote on Proposed MOU Regarding the Installation of Lights on the Stadium Field and Associated Operating Conditions

Motion

Mrs. Uzenoff, Board of Education Vice Chairperson and Chair of the Facilities Committee, will discuss the proposed MOU.

3. Discussion and Vote on Proposed MOU Regarding the Senior Center at Hurlbutt Elementary School

Motion

Mrs. Uzenoff, Board of Education Vice Chairperson and Chair of the Facilities Committee, will discuss the proposed MOU.

4. Discussion of Reallocating Capital Funds for the WHS Windows/HVAC Project

Information

Dr. Palmer, Superintendent of Schools, will discuss the reallocation of capital funds in the amount of \$60,000 from instructional space renovations in the middle school to the high school windows/HVAC project.

5. Discussion and Vote on 2014-2015 Tuition Rates, *page 11*

Motion

Dr. Keating, Director of Finance and Operations, will review the 2014-2015 tuition rates.

- 6. Discussion and Vote on Healthy Food Certification** **Motion**
Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes requires that each local boards of education or governing authority for all Connecticut public schools districts participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) must take action annually to certify whether all food items sold to students will or will not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards. This includes all public schools, regional educational service centers, the Connecticut Technical High School System, charter schools, inter-district magnet schools and endowed academies.
- 7. Discussion and Vote on Weston High School's Participation in the National School Lunch Program, pages 12-85** **Motion**
- 8. Cleaning Service Bid Award** **Motion**
Dr. Keating, Director of Finance and Operations, will discuss the cleaning bids and her recommendation for approval.
- 9. Seventh FY 2014 Financial Update and Approval of Transfers** **Motion**
Dr. Keating, Director of Finance and Operations, will provide a monthly financial update.
- 10. Appointment of District Medical Advisor for 2014-15** **Motion**
- 11. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws, pages 87-93** **First Reading**
Mr. Brey, Director of Human Resources and Internal Counsel, will review the following Weston Board of Education policies, regulations, and bylaws:
A. Policy 1331, Use of Video Monitoring Devices and Video Recordings;
B. Administrative Regulation R 1331, Use of Use of Video Monitoring Devices and Video Recordings; and
C. Administrative Regulation R 5133, School Swimming Pool Safety Plan.
- 12. Discussion and Vote on Salary and Contract Term for 2014-15 for Unaffiliated Central Office Administrators** **Motion**
A. Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Contract
B. Director of Finance and Operations Contract
C. Director of Human Resources Contract
D. Director of Technology Contract

VII. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws, pages 94-117** **Motion**
Mr. Brey, Director of Human Resources and Internal Counsel, will review the following Weston Board of Education policies, regulations, and bylaws:
A. Policy 5113.2, Attendance and Truancy;
B. Regulation 5113.2, Attendance and Truancy;
C. Regulation 5113, Attendance and Excuses;
D. Policy 5113, Attendance and Excuses; and
E. Policy 1252, Possession of Deadly Weapons.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- 1. Next Regular Board Meeting Monday, July 21, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.** **Information**

2. **Presentation of Initial Draft of 2015-16 Calendar, *page 118***
3. **District Update**

**Information
Information**

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Communications Committee - Nina Daniel**
2. **Curriculum Committee - Ellen Uzenoff**
3. **Finance Committee - Denise Harvey**
4. **Facilities Committee - Ellen Uzenoff**
5. **Policy Committee - Dana Levin**
6. **Negotiations Committee - Denise Harvey**
7. **CES - Nina Daniel**
8. **CABE - Elise Major**
9. **Weston Education Foundation - Denise Harvey**

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X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. **Discussion of a Confidential Communication from the Board's Attorney**
2. **Discussion of the of Memorandum of Understanding with Weston Teachers' Association**

XI. ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. **Discussion and Vote on the Visual and Performing Arts Curriculum Instructional Leader Memorandum of Understanding with the Weston Teachers' Association**

Motion

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Weston Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting
Weston Middle School Library Resource Center
May 19, 2014

Attendance:

Philip Schaefer, Chairperson	Sara Spaulding
Ellen Uzenoff, Vice Chairperson	Dr. Colleen Palmer, Superintendent
Dana Levin, Secretary/Treasurer	Dr. Kenneth Craw, Assistant Superintendent
Nina Daniel	Dr. Jo-Ann Keating, Director of Finance & Ops.
Denise Harvey	Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources
Elise Major	

III. RESUME PUBLIC SESSION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. RECOGNITION

1. CABA Student Leadership Award

Ms. Watkins introduced Weston Middle School students Dustin Duffy and Elissa Teles and Mrs. Deorio introduced Weston High School students Ilana Berger and David Silverman who have been awarded Student Leadership Awards by the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education recognizes Weston Middle School students Dustin Duffy and Elissa Teles, and Weston High School students Ilana Berger and David Silverman for being chosen to receive CABA's Student Leadership Award. Motion by Mrs. Levin, second by Ms. Harvey, all in favor. (7-0)

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board voted to approve the minutes from April 21.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the minutes of the April 21, 2014 Regular and Executive Sessions. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Ms. Spaulding, six in favor, one abstention. (6-0-1)

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT – No report

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Resignation

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education notes the resignation of Joseph Lato, 1.0 FTE Weston High School Physical Education Teacher, effective June 17, 2014. Motion by Mrs. Uzenoff, second by Mrs. Levin, all in favor. (7-0)

2. Discussion of Ducibella Venter & Santore's Review of Security for the Senior at Hurlbutt Elementary School

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education moves to executive session to discuss confidential matters pertaining to security. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Mrs. Uzenoff, all in favor. (7-0)

Jeff Venter of DVS, Dr. Colleen Palmer, Dr. Kenneth Craw, Dr. Jo-Ann Keating, Lewis Brey, and Dan Clarke were invited into executive session.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education resumes public session. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Ms. Major, all in favor. (7-0)

Mr. Venter, DVS Security Senior Principal, discussed the methodology and areas that were covered as part of the review process of security for the Senior Center at HES.

3. Discussion of Amended Sound System Guidelines for Football Stadium

Dr. Keating, Director of Finance and Operations, presented the amended sound system guidelines for Board approval. Discussion by the Board followed.

4. Discussion of Annual Instructional Update

Dr. Palmer, Superintendent of Schools, and Dr. Craw, Assistant Superintendent, highlighted the contents of the Annual Instructional Update for 2013-2014, including electronic curriculum mapping, 21st century skill development, common core state standards, writing initiative, and technology integration. All Curriculum Instructional Leaders presented their subject area reports to the Board Curriculum Committee at the May 14, 2014 meeting.

5. Sixth FY 2014 Financial Update and Approval of Transfers

Dr. Keating, Director of Finance and Operations, provided a monthly financial update, including one transfer into the drivers' account, the proposed supplemental appropriations to be voted on in this agenda, and the internal services fund.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the transfers as presented by Dr. Keating. Motion by Mrs. Levin, second by Ms. Daniel.

Motion to Amend: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the transfers as presented by Dr. Keating in the sixth FY 2014 financial update. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Mrs. Levin, all in favor. (7-0)

Amended Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the transfers as presented by Dr. Keating in the sixth FY 2014 financial update. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Mrs. Levin, all in favor. (7-0)

6. Discussion and Vote on 2014-2015 Board of Education Meeting Dates

Dr. Palmer reviewed the dates for the 2014-15 Board meetings and changes from last year's meeting schedule. Discussion by the Board concerning the August proposed meeting date followed.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the proposed Board of Education meeting schedule for the 2014-2015 school year. Motion by Ms. Daniel, second by Ms. Harvey, all in favor. (7-0)

7. Discussion and approval of salary increases for Transportation/Energy Coordinator; Nursing Supervisor; Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Superintendent; Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Director of Human Resources; Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Directors of Finance and Operations, Facilities, and Technology; Purchasing Coordinator; Payroll Coordinator; Accounts Payable/Grants Coordinator; Student Activities Bookkeeper; Athletic Trainer; Medical Advisor; Network Administrator; and District Data Coordinator

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves a 2.25% increase for Transportation/Energy Coordinator; Nursing Supervisor; Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Superintendent; Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Assistant Superintendent of Schools; Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Director of Human Resources; Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Directors of Finance and Operations, Facilities, and Technology; Purchasing Coordinator; Payroll Coordinator; Accounts Payable/Grants Coordinator; Student Activities Bookkeeper; Athletic Trainer; Medical Advisor; Network Administrator; and District Data Coordinator for the 2014-15 school year. Motion by Mrs. Levin, second by Mrs. Uzenoff, all in favor. (7-0)

8. Discussion and Vote on Food Service Renewal

Dr. Keating reviewed the proposed contract renewal with Chartwells for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Re-bidding is set to occur during the 2015 fiscal year.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education awards the Food Service Contract for the fiscal year 2014-2015, commencing on July 1, 2014, to Chartwells, a member of the Compass Group. Motion by Ms. Daniel, second by Mrs. Levin, all in favor. (7-0)

9. Discussion and Vote on Request for Two Supplemental Appropriations

Dr. Palmer discussed the need for supplemental appropriations regarding special education costs and the unanticipated hiring of an additional kindergarten teacher due to enrollment increases. The Town Boards are anticipating taking action during their June meetings.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education formally requests a supplemental appropriation from the Town of Weston for special education for \$351,900 for the 2013-14 fiscal year. Motion by Mrs. Levin, second by Ms. Harvey, all in favor. (7-0)

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education formally requests a supplemental appropriation from the Town of Weston for a kindergarten teacher for \$84,205 for the 2013-14 fiscal year. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Mrs. Uzenoff, all in favor. (7-0)

10. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

Mr. Brey, Director of Human Resources and Internal Counsel, reviewed the following Weston Board of Education policies, regulations, and bylaws:

- A. Policy 5113.2, Attendance and Truancy;
- B. Regulation 5113.2, Attendance and Truancy;
- C. Regulation 5113, Attendance and Excuses;
- D. Policy 5113, Attendance and Excuses; and
- E. Policy 1252, Possession of Deadly Weapons.

Discussion by the Board followed.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

Mr. Brey reviewed the following Weston Board of Education policies, regulations, and bylaws:

- A. Policy 5114.6, Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment (Students);
- B. Administrative Regulation 5114.6, Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment (Students); and
- C. Policy 4118.12/4218.12, Sexual Harassment (Personnel).

There were no substantive changes since the first reading.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves Policy 5114.6, Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment (Students); Administrative Regulation 5114.6, Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment (Students); and Policy 4118.12/4218.12, Sexual Harassment (Personnel). Motion by Mrs. Levin, second by Ms. Harvey, all in favor. (7-0)

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Next Regular Board Meeting Monday, June 16, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

2. District Update

Dr. Palmer announced that there is a deferral of the unified regional calendar for one year (2015-16 school year) and work will begin on planning that calendar shortly. She also stated that the windows and doors project, which will refurbish 12 classrooms, is on track to start

at the high school. Dr. Palmer also announced that the moving up ceremony is June 16 at 5:00 p.m. and Commencement on June 17, and explained why the last day of school is a two-hour day. She reminded residents that an overview of school security will be held tomorrow in the high school auditorium at 7:00 p.m. with a question and answer period.

3. Principals' Reports

Mrs. Deorio, Weston High School Principal, showcased the senior internship program, the WHS *U.S. News and World Report* ranking, AP exam scores, Relay for Life, sophomore writing portfolio assessment, and the upcoming Senior Citizen Social and student Prom. Ms. Watkins, Weston Middle School Principal, discussed the eighth-grade mentorship celebration, a seventh-grade science experience that allowed them to understand the inner workings of the cell, a sixth-grade AIM math project in which students planned field trips, and the Cornerstone Legacy Project. Ms. Falber, Weston Intermediate School Principal, talked about the fifth-grade cornerstone, which reflects upon students' experiences at WIS and a recent visit by Richard Weiss. Mrs. Kaddis, Hurlbutt Elementary School Principal, highlighted two school-wide assemblies, kindergarten registration, and kindergarten orientation.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Communications Committee

The Committee has held a number of work sessions to plan the Realtors' Open House that will be hosted at Weston High School on May 21. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for May 28 at 8:15 a.m.

2. Curriculum Committee

There is nothing to report beyond the Annual Instructional Update that was discussed previously on the agenda. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for June 11 at 8:00 a.m.

3. Finance Committee

The following items from the May 9 meeting were discussed by Ms. Harvey: next year and potential additional issues with the Zenon plant, a new OPEB report, the sixth financial and SPED reports, supplemental appropriation requests, the windows and doors project, an update on the status of the technology lease, a review of tuition rate calculation, and the National School Lunch Program Committee. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for June 5 at 8:00 a.m.

4. Facilities Committee

Mrs. Uzenoff announced that an article was published today from State Representative John Shaban and Governor Dannel Malloy's offices, which said that Weston was awarded a \$225,000 STEAP grant for turf replacement. The following items from the May 6 meeting were also discussed by Mrs. Uzenoff: a proposal for relocating the bus depot, the CIL for theatre and performing arts, blacktop space and parking, Zenon plant summer work, the WHS windows and doors project, safe routes

to school, and the sound guidelines. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for June 3 at 4:00 p.m.

5. Policy Committee

There is nothing to report beyond what was discussed previously on the agenda. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for June 3 at 8:15 a.m.

6. Negotiations Committee

Nothing to report.

7. CES

Per Ms. Daniel, at the May 1 meeting, a grant initiative for Yale/CES research in early childhood education was discussed. Ms. Daniel also discussed an upcoming speaker/program for parents on May 29 on cyberbullying, which was organized by the Weston Wellness Committee.

8. CABE

Nothing to report beyond the recognition awards.

9. Weston Education Foundation

Ms. Harvey, announced that WEF gave David Trigaux Innovation Awards to Amanda Quaintance (2013 recipient), Jack Kingston (2014 recipient), and Anna Balouskus (2014 recipient).

XI. ADJOURNMENT

*Motion: Motion to adjourn by Ms. Major, second by Mrs. Uzenoff, all in favor.
(7-0) Meeting adjourned at 10:17 p.m.*

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Markov, Board of Education Clerk.

Minutes reviewed/approved by Dr. Colleen Palmer, Superintendent.

Weston Public Schools
Special Board of Education Meeting
Weston Middle School Library Resource Center
May 22, 2014

Attendance:

Philip Schaefer, Chairperson	Sara Spaulding
Ellen Uzenoff, Vice Chairperson	Dr. Colleen Palmer, Superintendent
Dana Levin, Secretary/Treasurer*	Dr. Kenneth Craw, Assistant Superintendent
Nina Daniel	Dr. Jo-Ann Keating, Director of Finance & Ops.
Denise Harvey	Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources
Elise Major	

I. CALL TO ORDER, VERIFICATION OF QUORUM
Philip Schaefer, Chairperson

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Helen de Keijzer, Chairman of Commission on Aging

Ms. de Keijzer is delighted to see the Senior Center project moving forward.

Woody Bliss, Grays Farm Road

Mr. Bliss spoke about the growth in participation at the Senior Center over the years and asked the Board of Education to find a way to take care of the seniors.

IV. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

1. Discussion and Decision Regarding Use of School Space by Senior Center

Dr. Palmer, Superintendent of schools recapped the questions asked at the May 20 special question and answer session on security, which included such topics as additional fencing along route 57, pick-up and drop-off logistics during Senior Center operating hours, who would assume the costs of any reclaiming of Senior Center space in the future, protocols for the Senior Center, and general security concerns.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education; (1) authorize the Chairperson to negotiate and execute a memorandum of understanding with the Town of Weston regarding the Senior Center for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2019; and (2) authorize the Town of Weston to expand the Senior Center facility to include the classrooms, offices, hallways, common areas, and storage areas in the South House of Hurlbutt Elementary School south of, and including, rooms 48 and 57, as depicted in the exhibit presented by the Superintendent. The Board of Education will continue to retain jurisdiction over all space utilized by the Senior Center pursuant to

Connecticut General Statutes section 10-220. Motion by Mrs. Levin, second by Ms. Spaulding, all in favor. (7-0)

2. Request for an 8-24 for the playground/expanded blacktop at HES

Dr. Palmer illustrated for residents where proposed blacktop and future play areas will be located.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education requests an 8-24 for the future planning and construction of a playground at Hurlbutt Elementary School. Motion by Mrs. Uzenoff, second by Mrs. Levin, all in favor. (7-0)

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Motion to adjourn by Mrs. Uzenoff, second by Ms. Harvey, all in favor. (7-0) Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Markov, Board of Education Clerk.

Minutes reviewed/approved by Dr. Colleen Palmer, Superintendent.

Weston Public Schools



RECEIVED
JUN 13 2014
HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. Lewis Brey, Esq.
Director of Human Resources
Internal Counsel
Weston Public Schools

Dear Mr. Brey,

Please accept this letter as my written notice of resignation from my position as Director of School Facilities on June 30, 2014. This is a follow up to my verbal notice provided in May 2014.

I have enjoyed my time serving under the Board of Education and the Central Office Administration over the past 10 and one half years. I am very proud of all of our accomplishments in improving the safety, operational efficiency and beauty of our school campus.

I want to thank all of the members of the Board and the Administrative team for their support and wish everyone in the school community continued success and prosperity in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel W. Clarke". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Daniel W. Clarke

RECEIVED

MAY 15 2014

OFFICE OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT

Kristy Peterson
715 Frenchtown Road #28
Bridgeport CT 06606
kristinepeterson@yahoo.com
(203) 371-0506

May 15, 2014

Dr. Colleen Palmer, Superintendent
Weston Public Schools
135 School Road
Weston, CT 06883

Dear Dr. Palmer,

As you have been made aware, I have recently accepted a position as a Language Arts teacher at Catherine McGee Middle School in Berlin for the 2014-2015 school year. As such, please accept this letter of resignation from Weston Public Schools effective the end of this academic term.

I value the experiences I have had both inside and outside of the classroom during my nine-years as an ELA teacher in the Middle School. I have grown immensely, both professionally and personally, through my work with colleagues, parents and students. I truly believed I would stay an active member of Weston's faculty for years to come, however, when my husband accepted a position at the University of Connecticut, Storrs, it became necessary for me to research teaching opportunities closer to that area of the state. While leaving my current position is bittersweet, I look forward to this next chapter in my life.

In the event that I can be of support to Weston in the future, please do not hesitate to contact me. I will certainly be in communication with Weston in the coming years as I have grown to consider it my second family for nearly a decade.

Sincerely,



Kristy Peterson

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2014-2015 TUITION RATES

NEW NON-RESIDENT PUPILS

<u>ELEMENTARY GRADES K-5</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Semester</u>	
KINDERGARTEN	\$16,293.19	\$8,146.60	Enrollment Closed
REGULAR	\$16,293.19	\$8,146.60	Enrollment Closed
GIFTED	Actual Cost		
SPECIAL EDUCATION	Actual Cost		
 <u>MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADES 6-8</u>			
REGULAR	\$16,934.11	\$8,467.06	Enrollment Closed
GIFTED	Actual Cost		
SPECIAL EDUCATION	Actual Cost		
 <u>HIGH SCHOOL GRADES 9-12</u>			
REGULAR	\$17,356.29	\$8,678.15	Enrollment Closed
GIFTED	Actual Cost		
SPECIAL EDUCATION	Actual Cost		

CERTIFIED STAFF NON-RESIDENT PUPILS

<u>ELEMENTARY GRADES K-5</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Semester</u>
KINDERGARTEN	\$4,073.30	\$2,036.65
REGULAR	\$4,073.30	\$2,036.65
GIFTED	Actual Cost	
SPECIAL EDUCATION	Actual Cost	
 <u>MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADES 6-8</u>		
REGULAR	\$4,233.52	\$2,116.76
GIFTED	Actual Cost	
SPECIAL EDUCATION	Actual	
 <u>HIGH SCHOOL GRADES 9-12</u>		
REGULAR	\$4,339.07	\$2,169.54
GIFTED	Actual Cost	
SPECIAL EDUCATION	Actual Cost	

For approval by Weston Board of Education at the June 16, 2014 meeting.

Weston Board of Education Policy 5118

Rates are net Special Education

Weston High School's Participation in the National School Lunch Program

“The mission of the Weston Public Schools Food Service Program is to provide students and staff with tasty, nutritious food that they find appetizing, fulfilling and affordable.”

Earlier this year, the State Department of Education Child Nutrition Program issued guidelines for school districts in order to comply with regulations for the National School Lunch Program that will become effective for the 2014-2015 school year. School districts must comply with these regulations to receive a financial subsidy for meals served; free and reduced lunches for students with economic need and food commodities.

The District's Director of Culinary Services, Andre Santelli and Dietician, Jill Patterson reviewed the high school's current menus to determine the impact of the new regulations. Based on this review, they concluded that the district would no longer be able to offer some of the most popular items on our menu at Weston High School. The following are examples of items that would have to be eliminated from the menu and the sales revenue to date for the 2013-2014 school year:

Cookies	34,680
Sports Nutrition bars	27,541
Sushi	16,179
Miss Vicky/Cape Cod Chips	11,080
Fresh Baked Muffins	10,377
Ice Cream Cups	4,757
Soup	4,082
Sabra Hummus Cups	3,225
Sun Chips	3,131
Munch bar	3,048
Smart Food Popcorn	<u>1,874</u>
 TOTAL	 119,972

These items account for approximately 20% of the sales at the high school.

Meetings were held with the Director of Finance and Operations, Representatives from Chartwells, Director of Culinary Services and the High School Principal to discuss the implications of the new regulations for our students. The following concerns were noted:

- Students would not have access at school to many of the popular menu items.
- The regulations significantly limit the amount of salt content in food, which diminishes the tastiness of the food we serve.
- Reduced serving size is not adequate for many high school students.
- Currently, participation is high because most students like meal choices in addition to those listed above. The new regulations will impact existing recipes.
- Introduction of new concepts would be very limited

It is reasonable to conclude that these factors will have a negative impact on student participation in the Food Service Program at Weston High School, and more students would either leave campus to buy lunch elsewhere, bring a lunch to school or not eat during the school day. The latter was the most concerning, because students need nutrition to learn and participate in extra-curricular activities. A decline in participation will also have an impact on the financial viability of the program, and could lead to a deficit.

The administration came to the conclusion that because of the new federal regulations, the district would not be able to accomplish its mission for its Food Service Program. This prompted the administration to conceptualize a program that was not compliant with the National School Lunch Program. These ideas were guided by the following goals:

1. Introduce more creative menu options that meet the needs and demands of students and staff.
2. Expand healthy options.
3. Customize serving sizes.
4. Increase participation.
5. Maintain affordability.

To ensure that our assumptions were correct, i.e., (1) students would be dissatisfied if the items listed above were eliminated from the menu, (2) there would be demand for the new concepts, and (3) there would be a willingness to pay more for some of the new concepts and larger serving sizes, the administration created a committee to determine if the concepts and associated business plan was viable. Members of the committee included: Member of the Board of Education, Director of Finance and Operations, Weston High School Principal, Director of Culinary Services, School Dietician, School Nurse, Parent and three students.

The Director of Culinary Services and the Dietician presented the attached Power Point (see Appendix A) to the committee, which outlines how the new standards would impact the existing program and how it could be enhanced if the district did not participate in the National School Lunch Program. After a thoughtful discussion, the committee decided to survey students, parents and staff to gather data on the impact of the new regulations on the existing program and if there was an appetite to move off of the National School Lunch Program to enable the district to maintain and expand its program. The survey results can be found in Appendix B.

The financial plan for maintaining and expanding the Food Service Program at Weston High School is as follows:

Weston High School 2014-2015	Y/E Projection off NSLP
Student	\$543,352
Student Reduced .40	\$342
Adult	\$20,520
Catering	\$35,000
TOTAL SALES	\$599,214
<i>Average Daily Revenue</i>	<i>\$3,504</i>
Gross Food Cost	\$263,788
Gross Paper Cost	\$17,976
VA's / Rebates	\$41,945
NET PRODUCT COST	\$239,819
Free & Reduced Charge	\$9,918
Client Payroll	\$9,790
Client Taxes/Other	\$428
Total Client Payroll	\$10,218
Direct Labor	\$188,800
Direct Taxes & Benefits	\$61,133
Total Direct Payroll	\$260,151
Supervisor Salary	\$22,230
Supervisor Taxes & Benefits	\$6,669
Total Supv/Clerk	\$28,899
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	\$289,050
TOTAL Other SEMI-VAR	\$14,449
Administrative Fee	\$15,478
Management Fee	\$10,673
TOTAL FEES	\$26,151
PERIOD NET PROFIT/(LOSS)	\$19,827
YTD NET PROFIT/(LOSS)	\$19,827
Actual Operating Days	171

This plan assumes the loss of state and federal revenue for the National School Lunch Program in 2014-2015 of approximately \$29,750. The following year the district will lose commodities valued at approximately \$14,679, which will be absorbed in the program. Additionally, the Universal Services Grant for Telecommunications, which is based on the number of free and

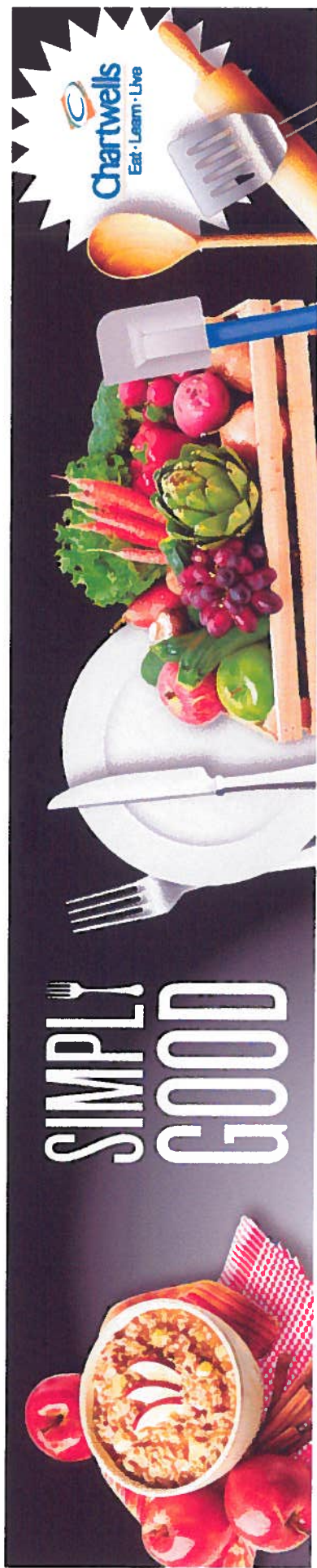
reduced students by school, will be reduced by \$35,000 to \$40,000. This reduction will take place in 2015-2016.

After reviewing the survey results, which confirmed that there was overwhelming support to maintain and expand the existing program, and the financial plan, the committee agreed to forward its recommendation to come off of the National School Lunch Program, and maintain and expand the existing Food Service Program at Weston High School to the Weston Board of Education. It is important to note that each year the Board of Education has the option to participate in the National School Lunch Program. Therefore, the Board of Education is not jeopardizing its option to participate in the National School Lunch Program for Weston High School in the future, if needed.

Weston High School Lunch Program

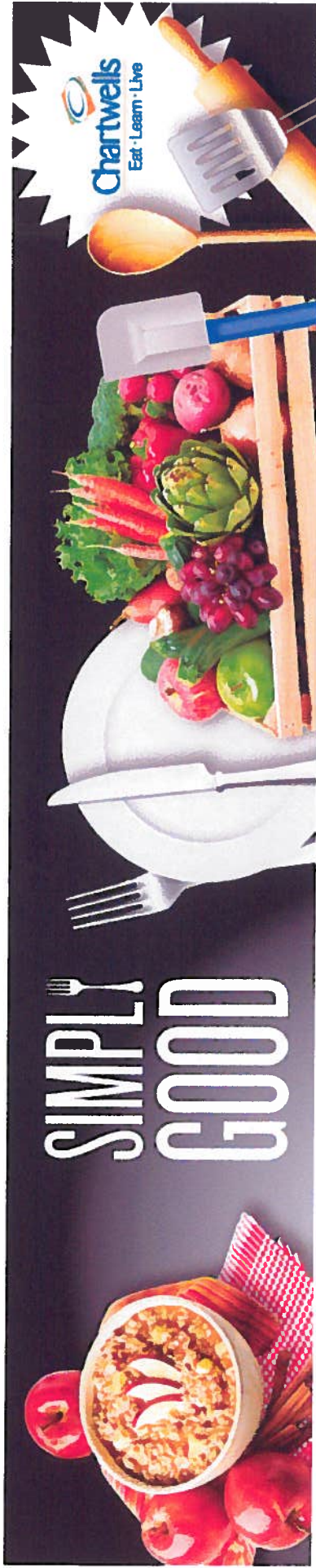
2014-2015





Chartwells & Weston team up in 2008:

- **No deep fat frying**
- **No high fructose corn syrup**
- **No partially hydrogenated oils or trans fats**
- **Use all whole muscle meats and poultry**
- **Boar's Head deli meats**
- **Natural cheeses**
- **Barilla pastas**
- **Regional farm fresh fruits and vegetables**
- **Preference for whole grains (50/50)**
- **Organic low fat yogurt**
- **100% fruit juices**
- **Milk free of hormones & antibiotics**

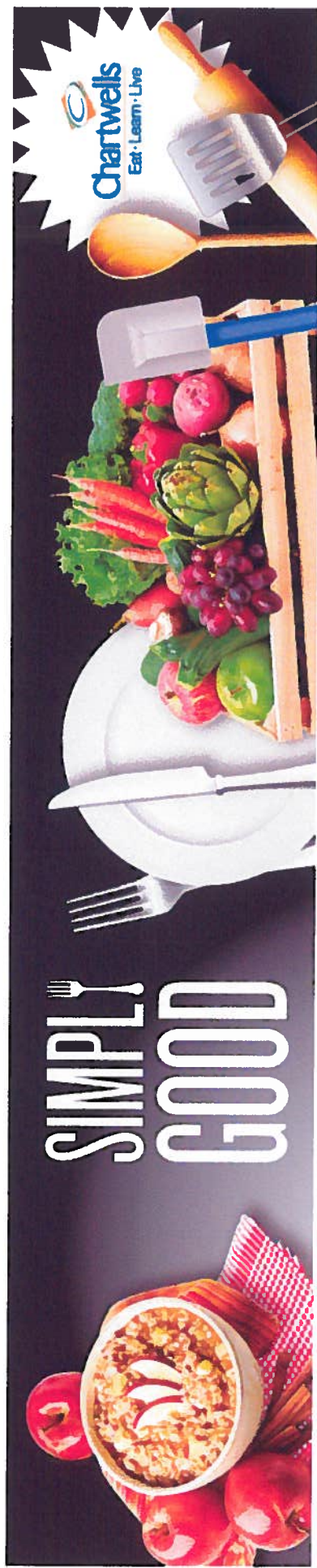


New USDA Regulations for School Year 2014-2015:

- Based on nutrient standards for each food

Weston Nutrition Standards:

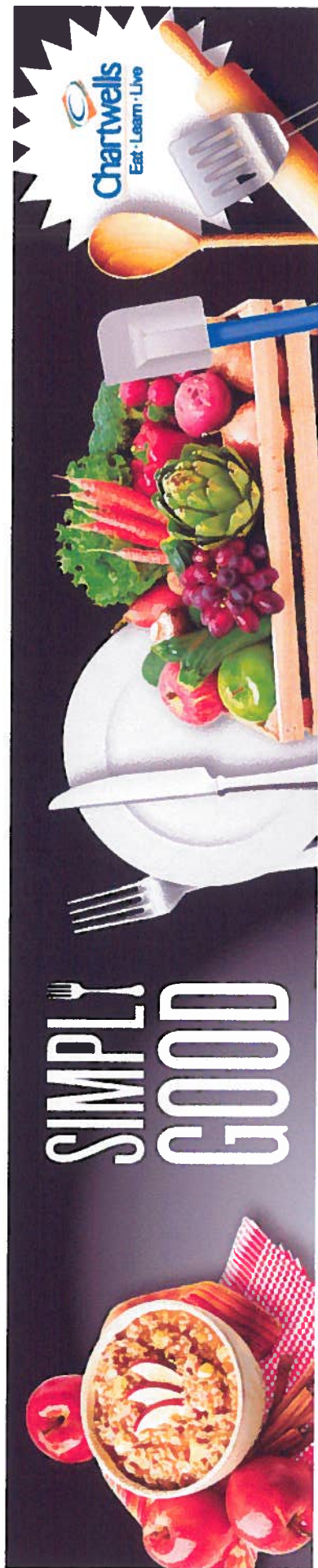
- Based on nutrient standards for the student
- Based on each food's ingredients



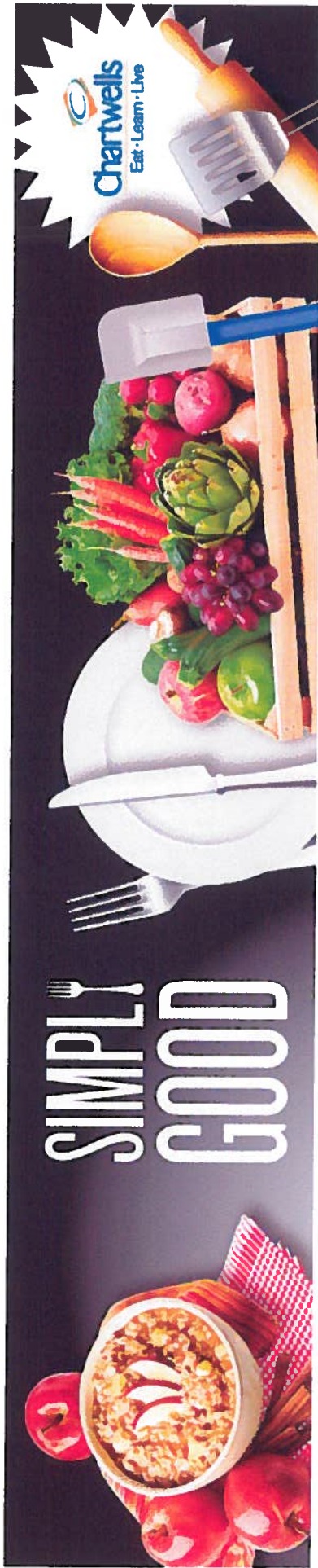
Why is the USDA making these changes?

-Many districts don't have resources

-Starting point

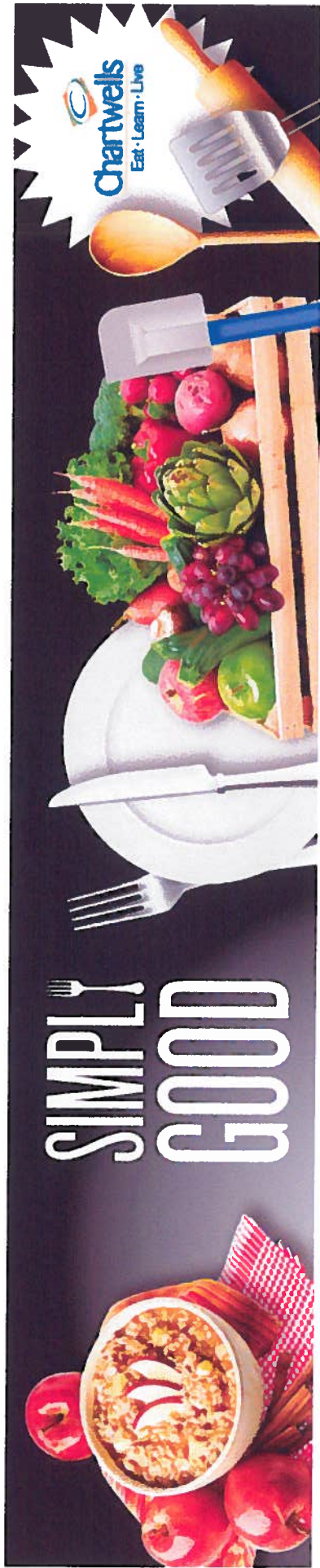


Weston Standards (off USDA program)	USDA program	Foods that meet both sets of Nutrient Standards
Ingredient Standards	Nutrient Standards for each food	Fruits
Nutrient Standards based on student for day/week	Less than 200 calories; Less than 35% Total Fat	Vegetables
	Less than 10% Saturated Fat; 0 Trans Fat	Seeds
	Less than 35% Sugar by weight	Nuts
	Less than 230 mg Sodium	



Under the new USDA regulations, we would have to eliminate these Weston favorites:





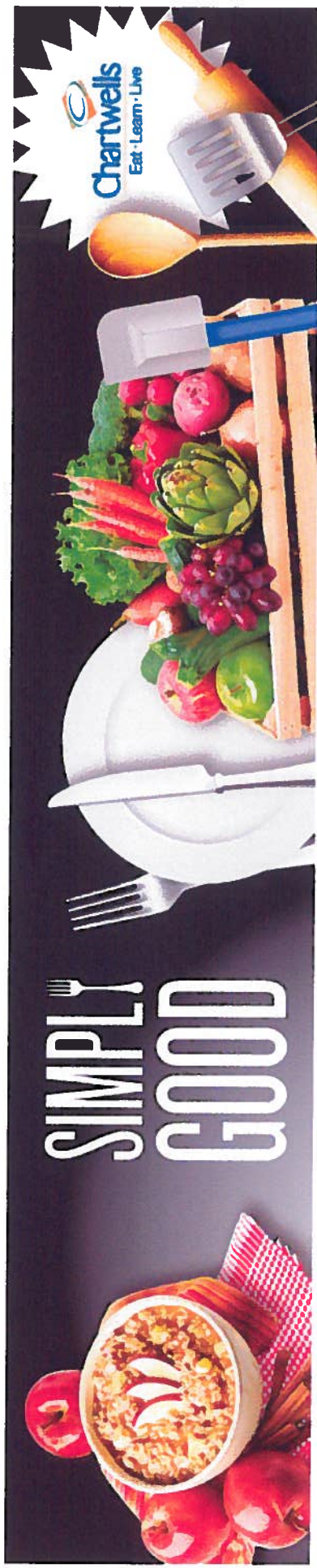
Is there another option?



Remove WHS from the National School Lunch Program

All food offered a la carte

Student Choice Cafeteria = University Cafeteria

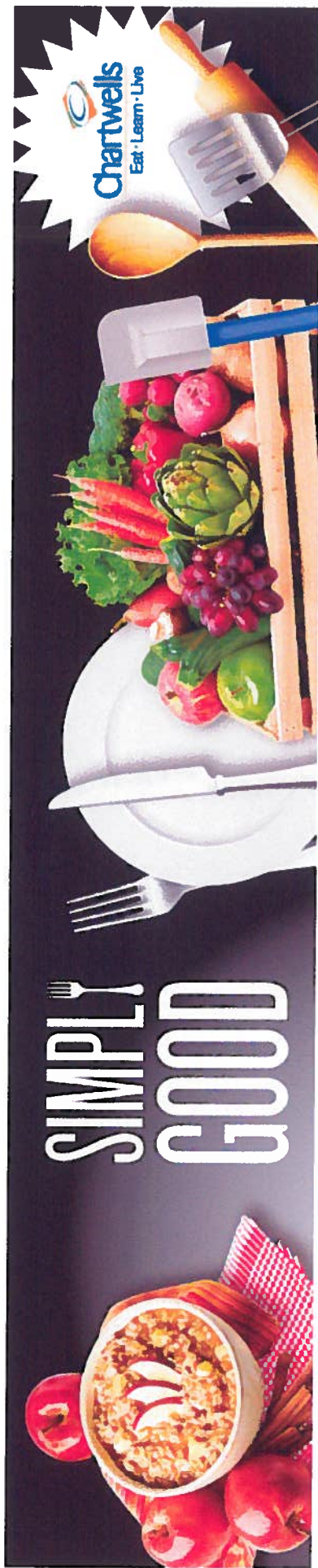


What are the financial ramifications?

Loss of monetary & commodity reimbursements used currently to offset food costs.

How do we offset the loss?

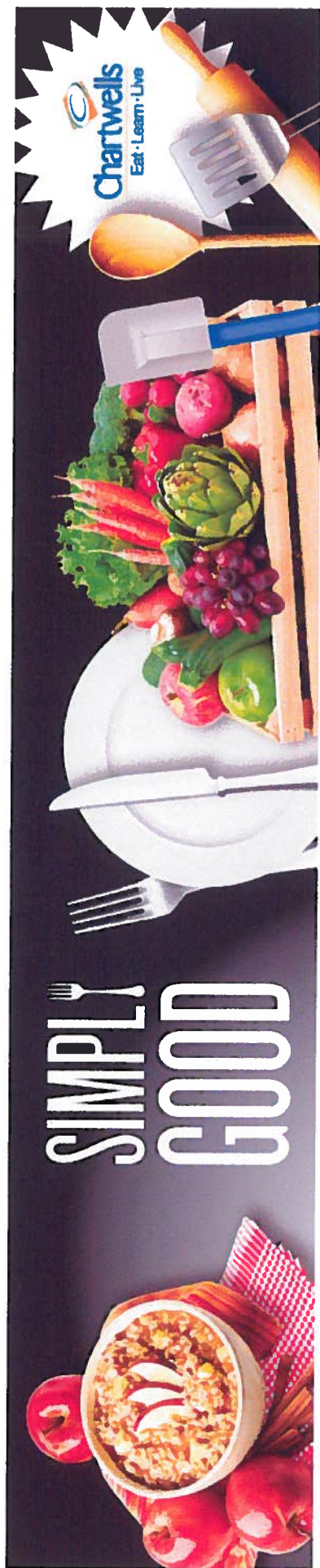
WHS will sell its products like any other unsubsidized business and maintain predetermined cost structures that will keep it self sustaining.



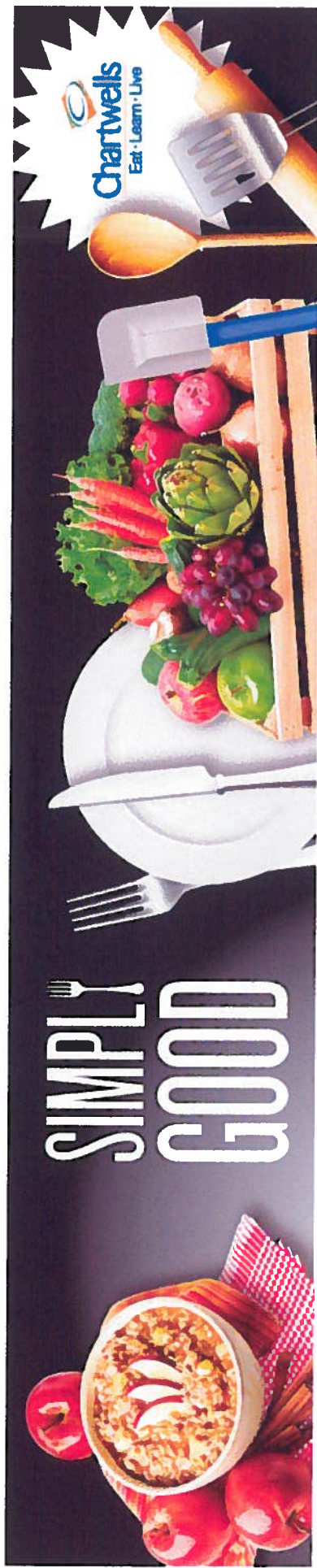
How will we deal with free & reduced student meals?

Free & reduced students will still be served

Free & reduced meals will include the choice of entrée, fruit, vegetable and milk & their charges to be absorbed as a cost. (see the attached Weston High School P&L statement at the end of this presentation)



Proposed Menu Modifications Weston High School 2014-2015



Build your own salad bar

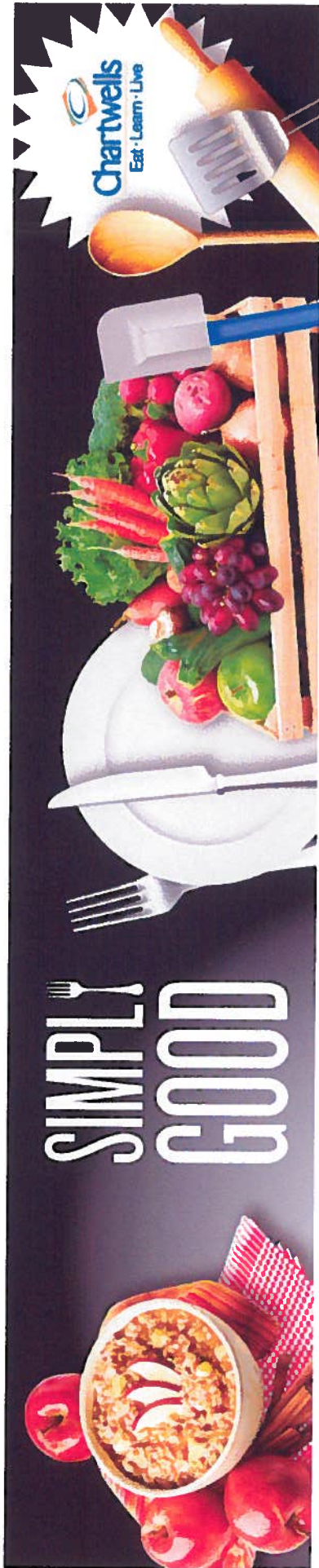
**Offer more creative, nutrient rich composed salads
(in addition to current hand cut farm fresh produce)**

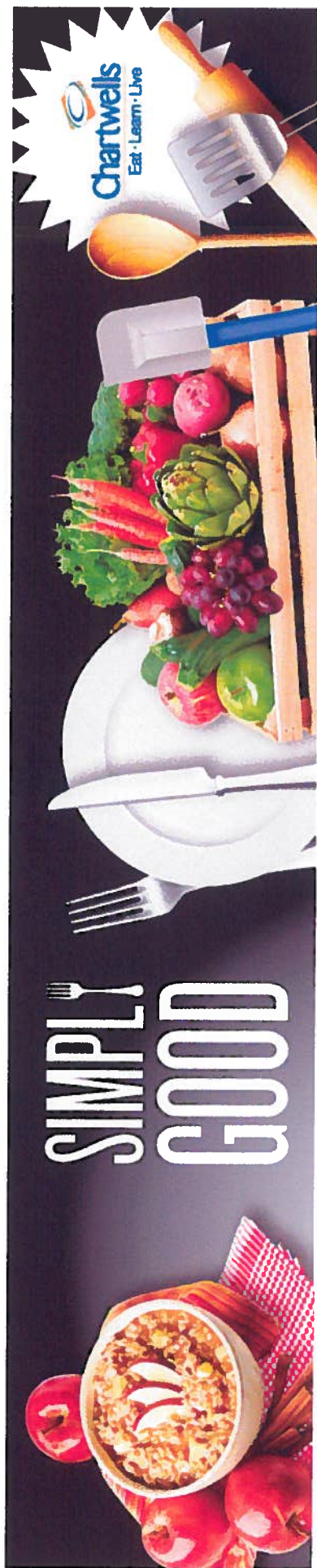
Offer our current salad specials daily (eg. Asian Salad)

**Natural cheese offerings including goat cheese, feta cheese, shaved
parmesan, etc.**

**Expand lean protein choices to include more cooked poultry, ham and
beef options**

Less commonly used fruits & vegetables (fennel, jicama, plantain, etc.)





Tabbouleh



Quinoa



Whole Grain Panzanella



Wheat Berry

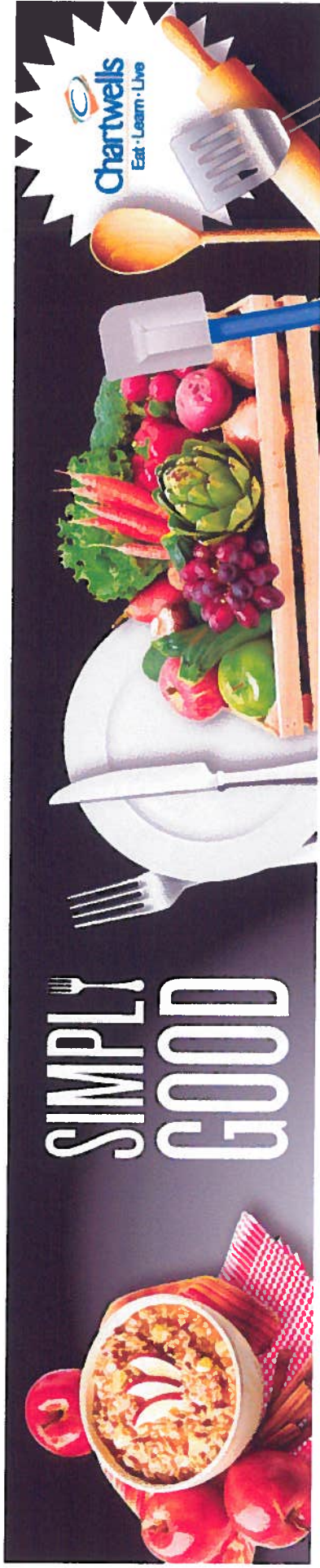


Kale



Lentil Beet





Hand Rolled Burrito Station

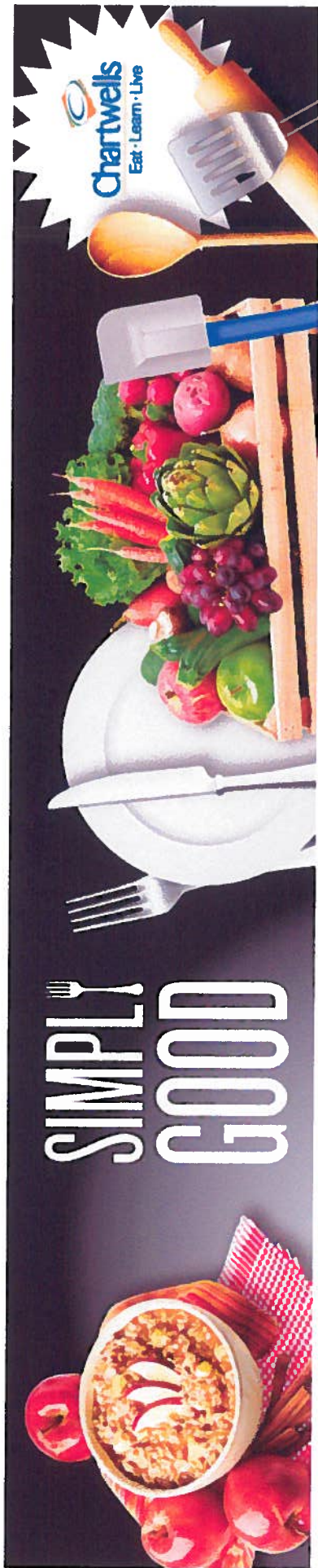
Weston's version of the very popular Chipotle concept

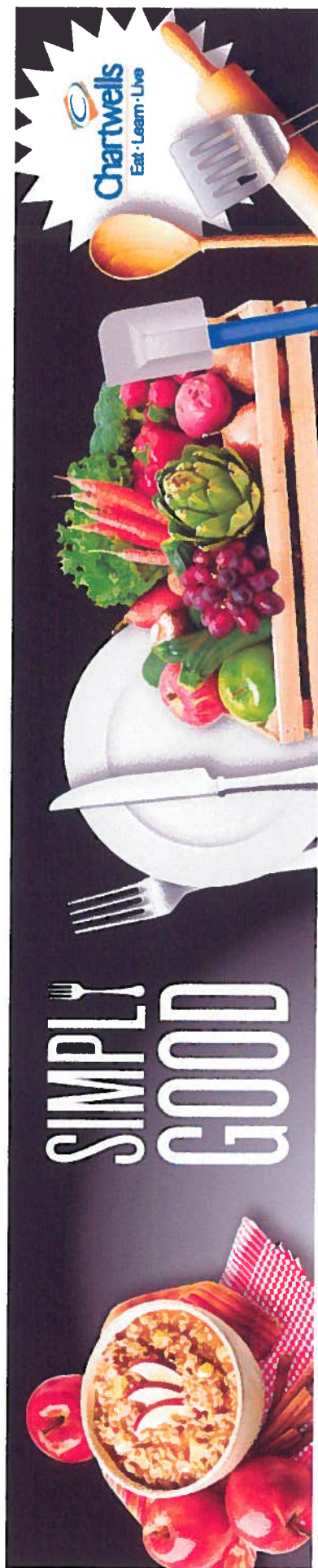
Expand assembly line, offer speedier service and larger portions

Offer burrito salad bowls and whole grain tacos

Add new protein choices; pork carnitas and beef barbacoa

Add cilantro lime rice and hand made guacamole





The Grill Station

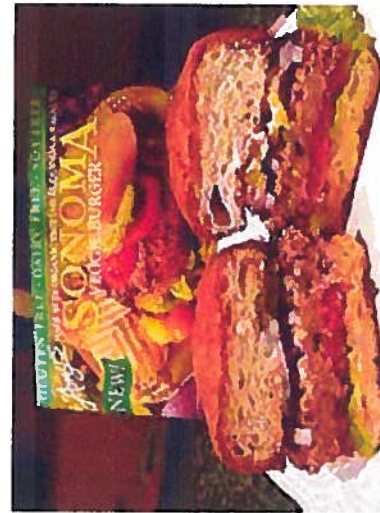
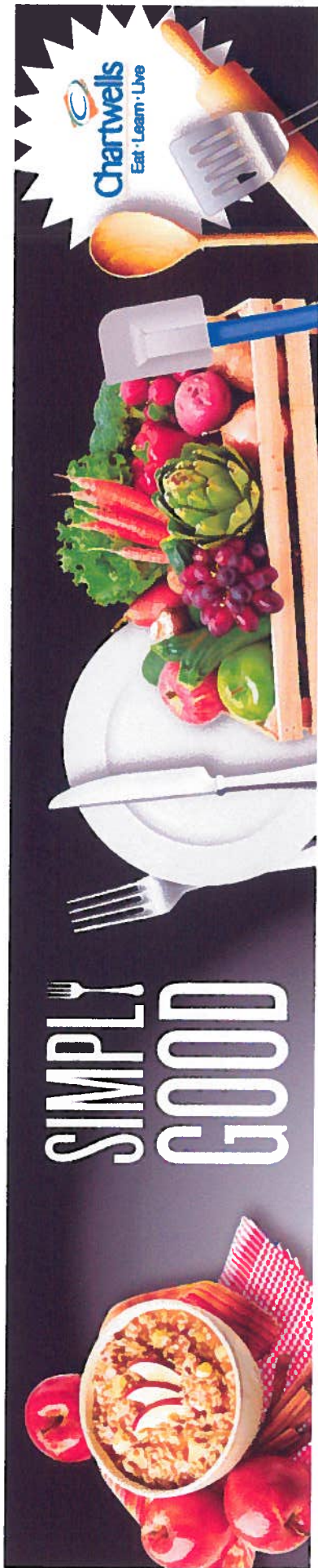
Amy's Veggie Burger

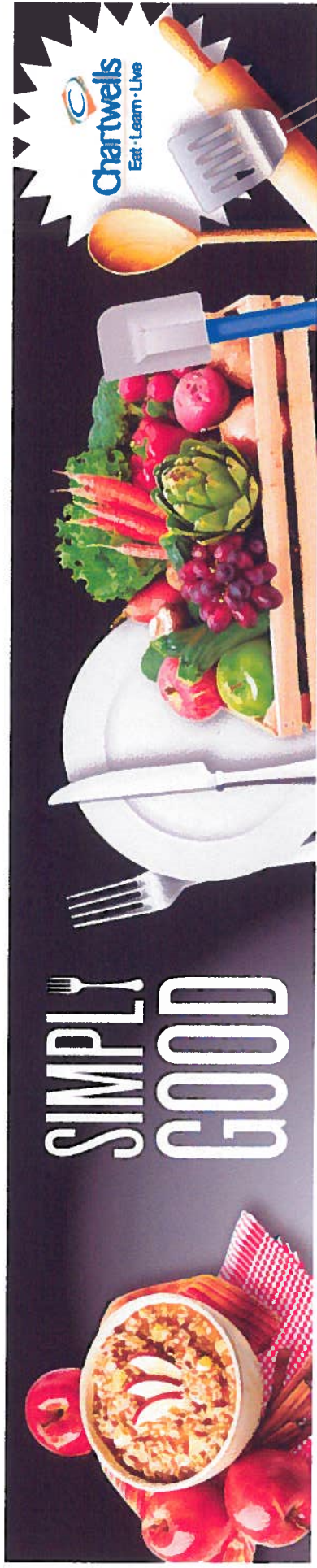
Grilled Marinated Portobello Mushroom

Large certified angus beef burger in addition small hamburger

Expand bread offerings to include new Artisanal bread choices in addition to the classic whole wheat hamburger bun (ex. Ciabatta)

Any grill item over a salad!



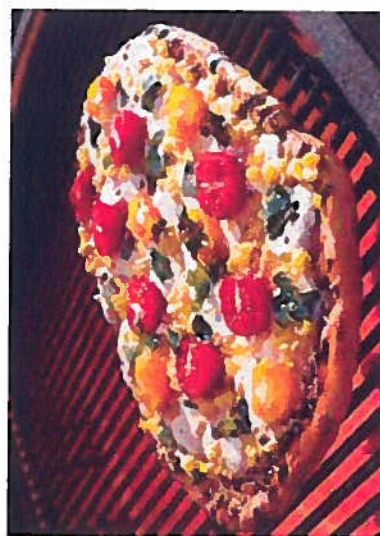
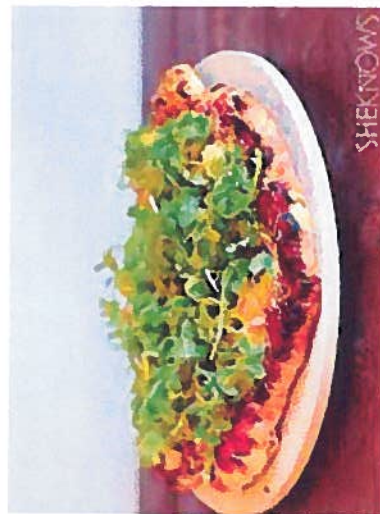
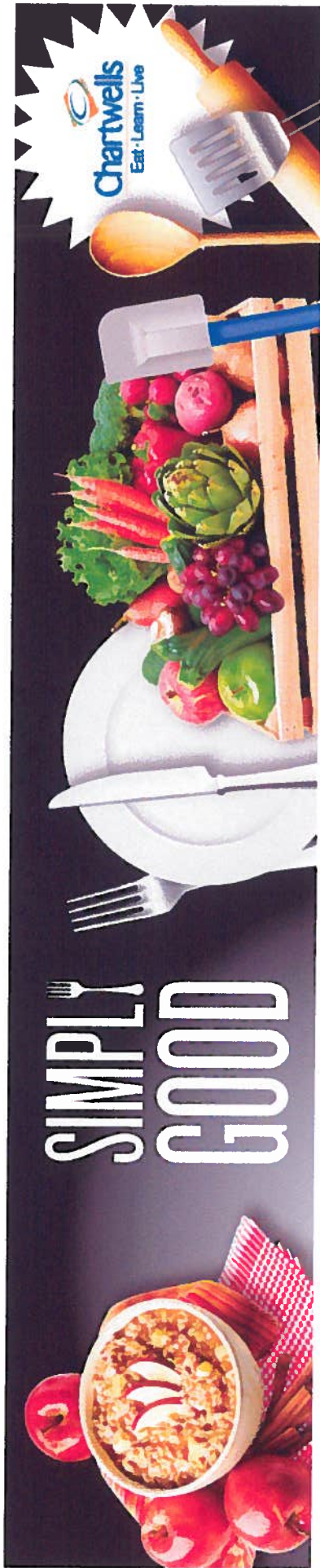


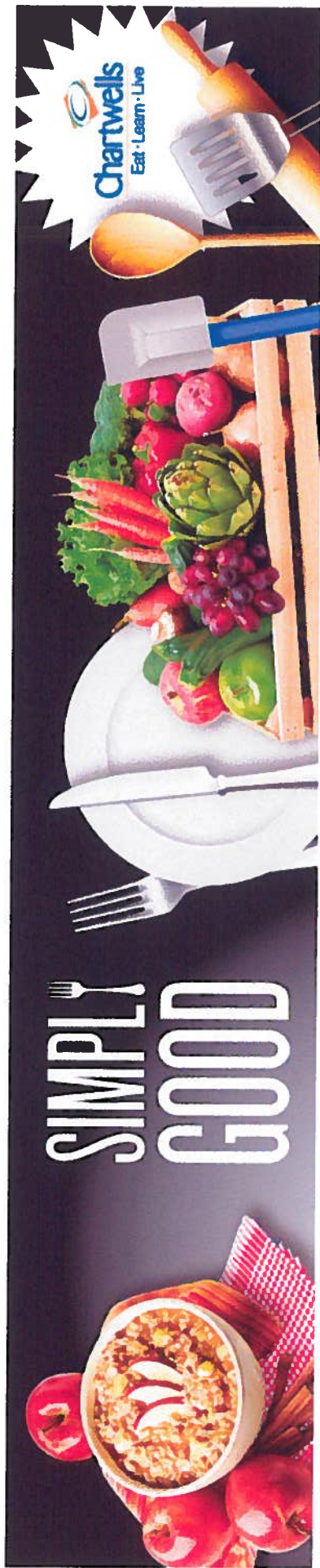
Grilled Pizza Station

**Individual grilled pizzas can be customized topped
and heated to order**

**New toppings including fresh mozzarella, asiago
cheese, fresh vegetables, homemade crushed
tomato & basil**

Salad Pizza!





Daily Hot Lunch Station

Rotating menu of hot lunch favorites ...

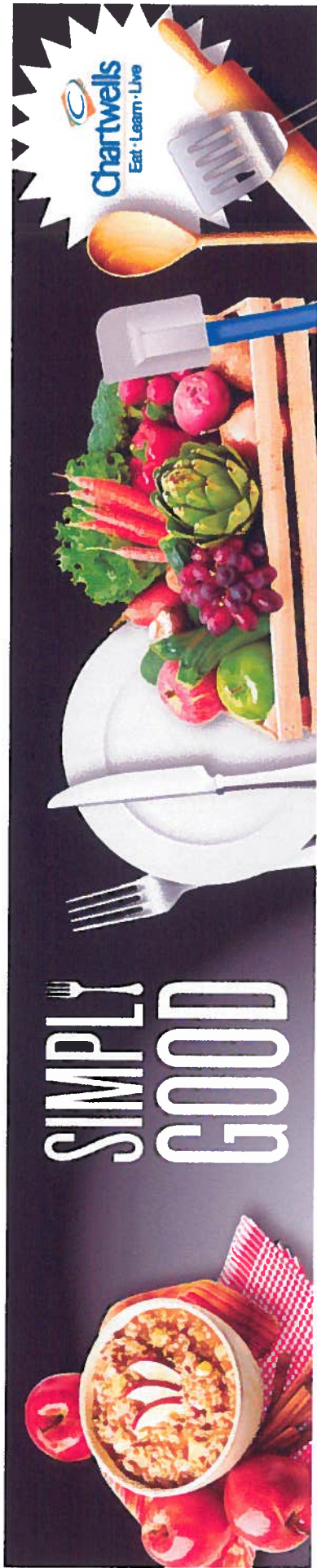
Pasta Bar

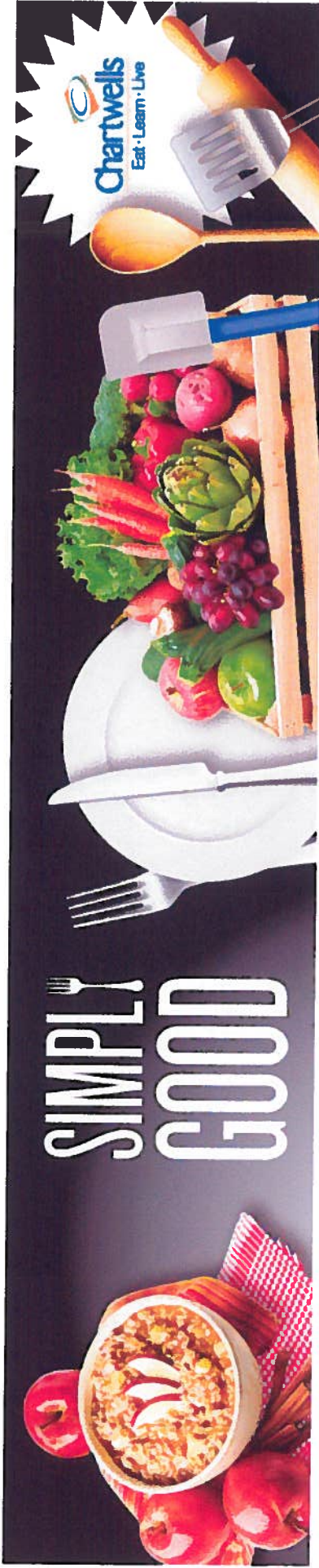
Asian

BBQ

Comfort Foods

This station also to be used as our chef table, promoting new exciting menu items with guest chefs!

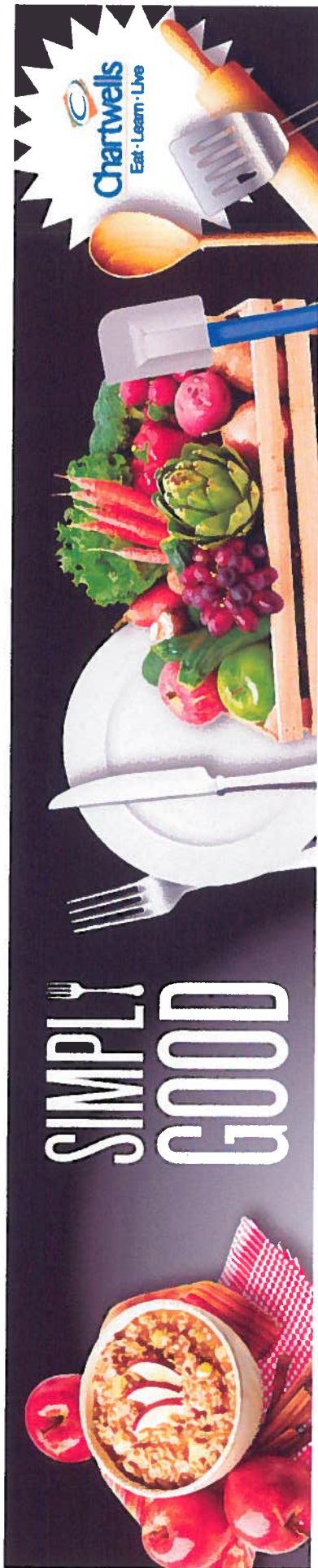


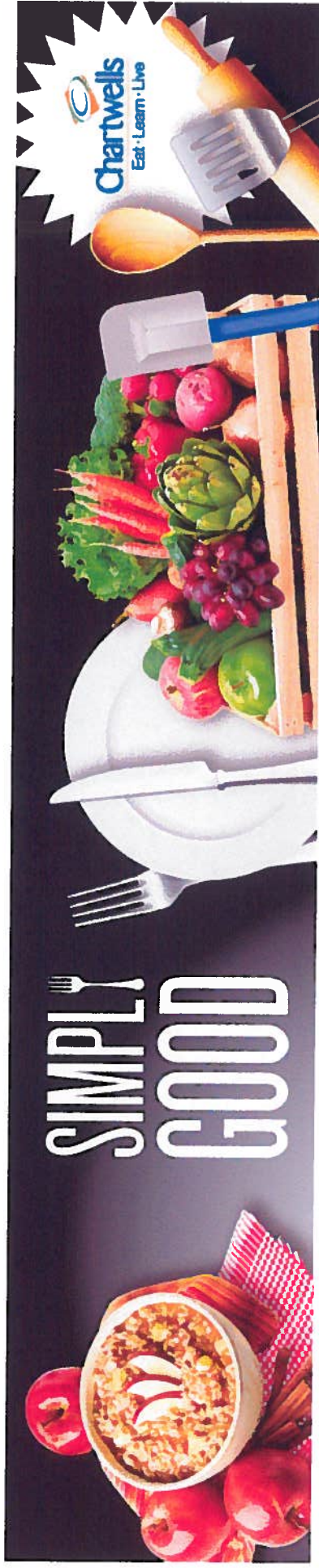


Boar's Head Deli

**Larger sandwiches to satisfy demand
(Double Meat)!**

**Bread offerings to include new Artisanal bread
choices (ex. ciabatta, focaccia)**



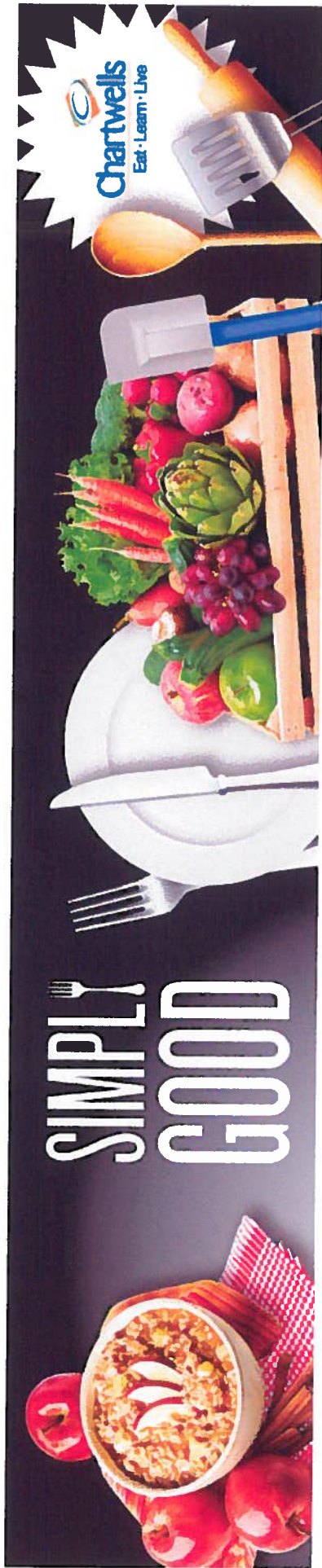


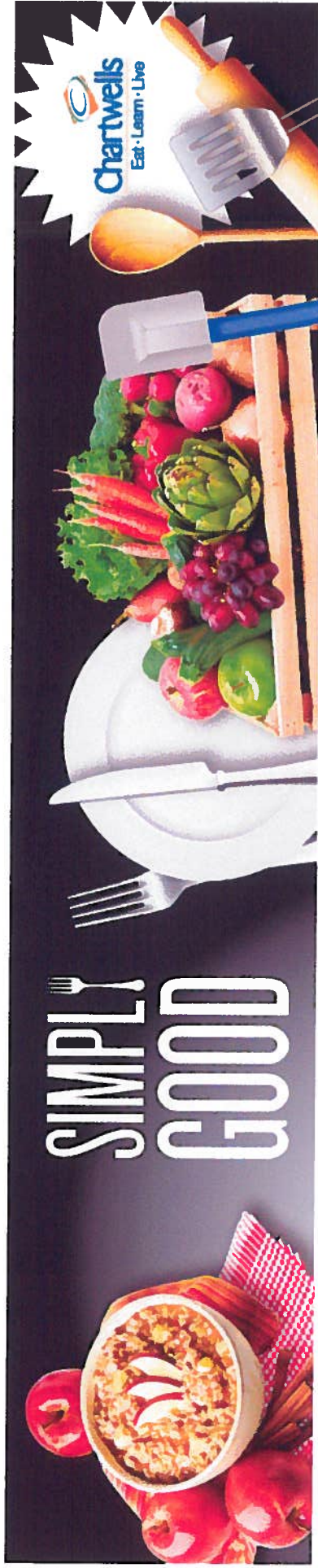
Self Serve Low Fat Frozen Yogurt Station

**Assorted low fat frozen yogurt flavors offered on a
weekly rotating basis**

**Full toppings bar with fresh and dried fruit, nuts,
seeds, granola, fruit sauces, etc.**

Gluten Free, Kosher Certified, Probiotics



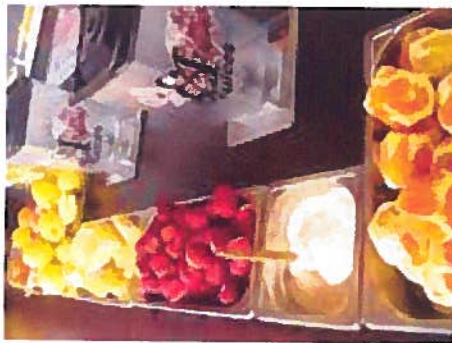
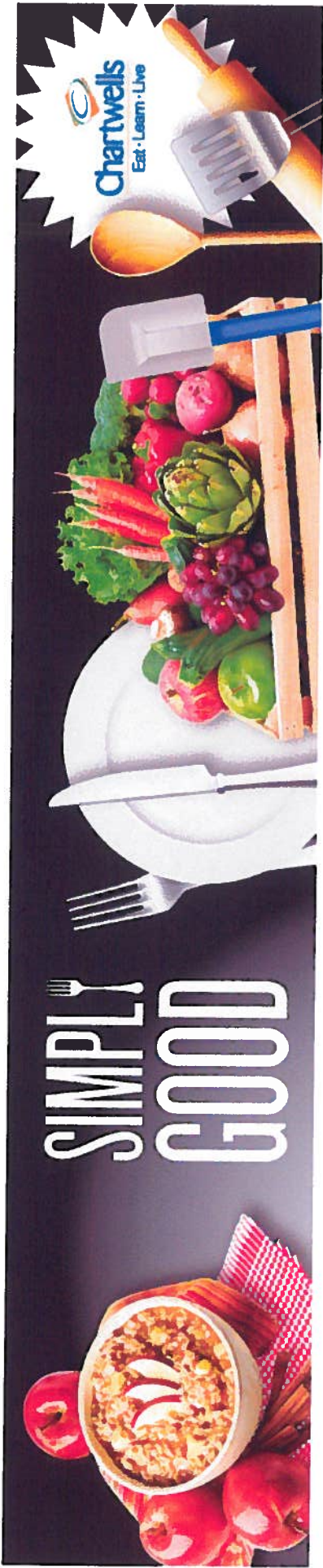


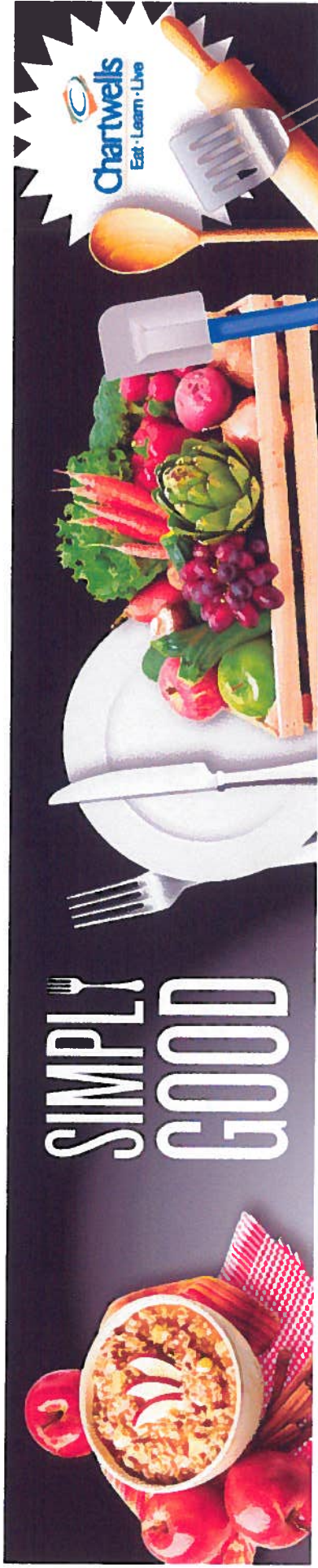
Juice Bar

**Yogurt based smoothies made with low fat yogurt,
fresh fruit and 100% juice**

**Full juice bar with a variety of fresh whole fruits,
green juices and vegetables to be juiced to order**

**Both smoothie and juice combinations to be
offered including the additions of protein
powders, flax seed, chia seed, wheat grass etc.**





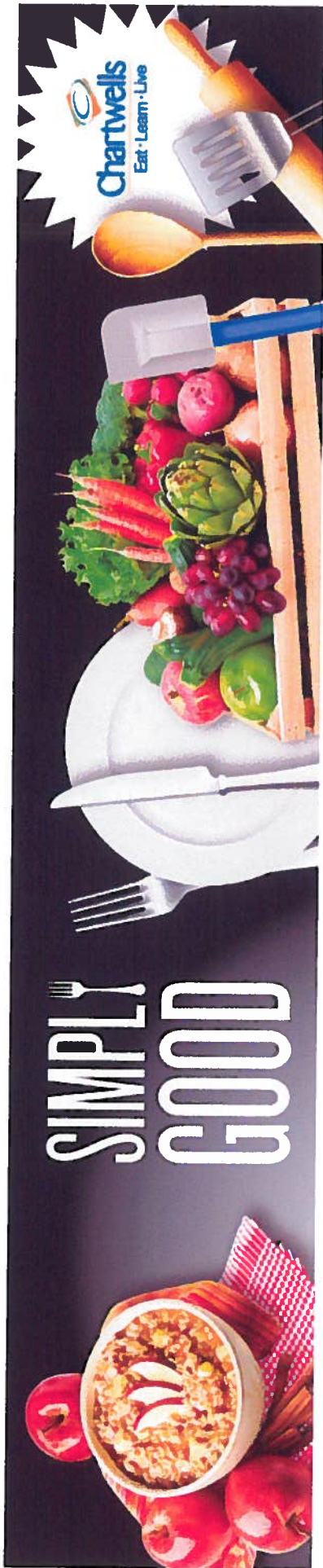
Sushi

Sushi available daily instead of 2 days per week

New sushi portion size will be 30% larger

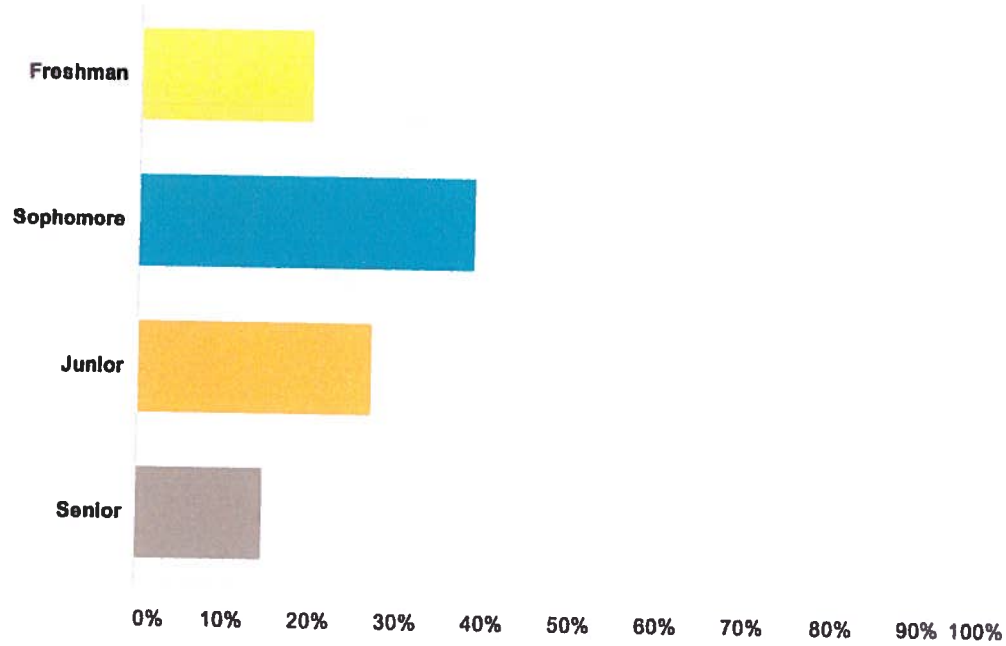
We will be offering both brown and white rice versions

New seaweed salad!



Q1 What grade are you in?

Answered: 272 Skipped: 4

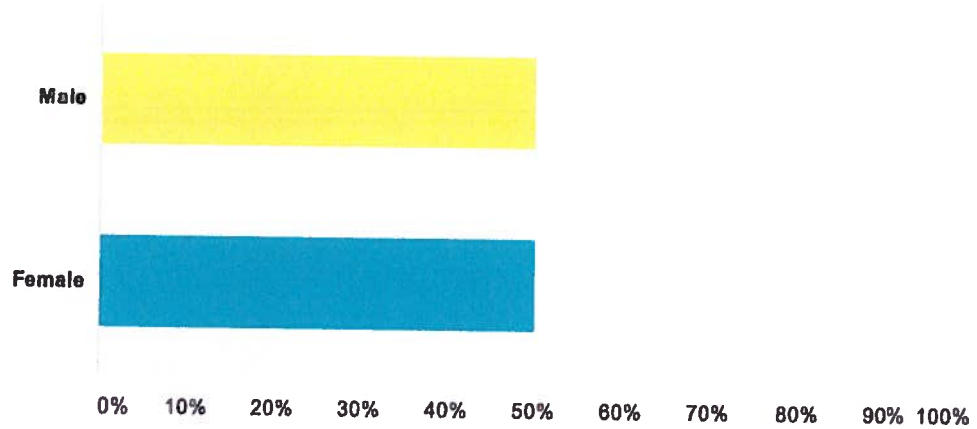


Answer Choices	Responses
Freshman	19.85% 54
Sophomore	38.60% 105
Junior	26.84% 73
Senior	14.71% 40
Total	272

Weston High School Lunch

Q2 Are you male or female?

Answered: 269 Skipped: 7

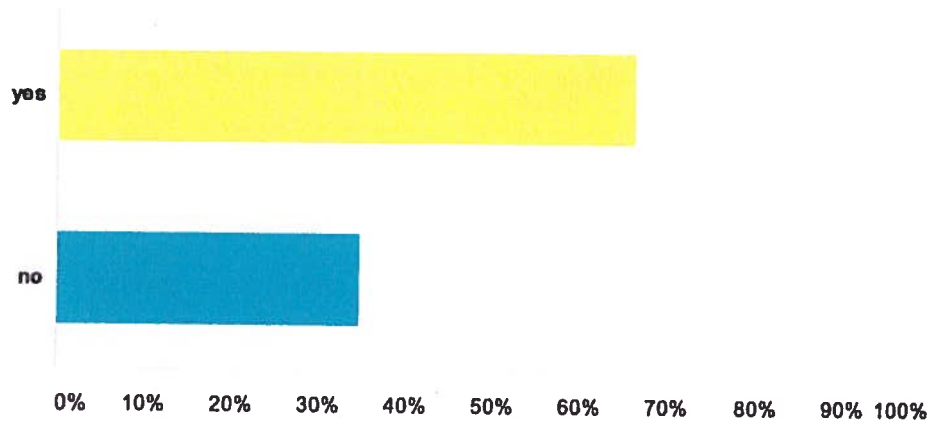


Answer Choices	Responses	
Male	49.81%	134
Female	50.19%	135
Total		269

Weston High School Lunch

Q3 If larger portions were available at an increased price (eg: larger hamburger, larger deli sandwich), would you consider purchasing them?

Answered: 269 Skipped: 7

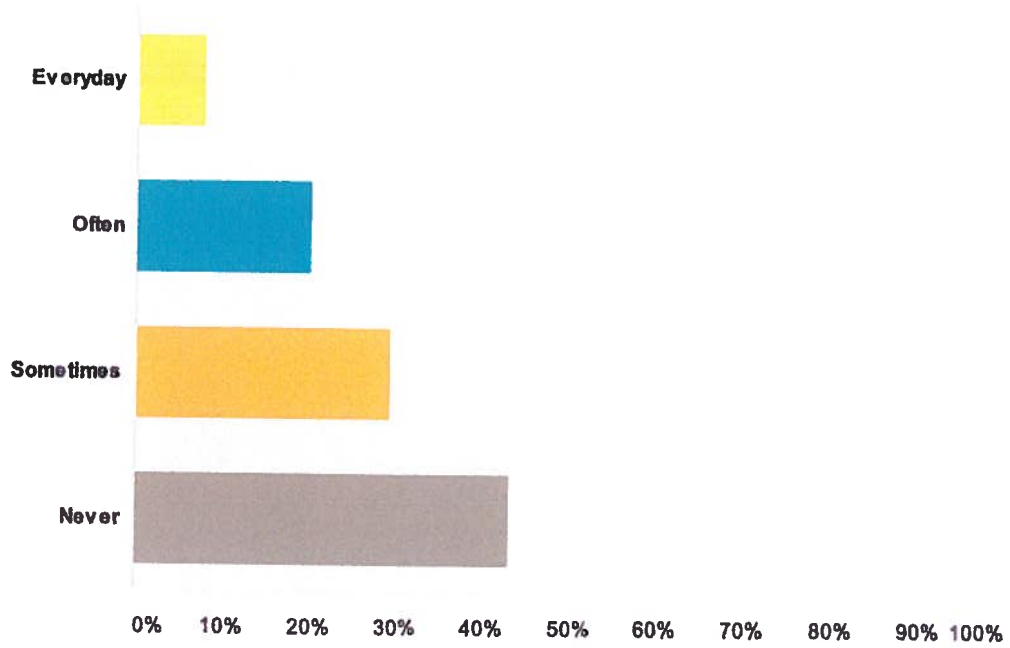


Answer Choices	Responses	
yes	66.17%	178
no	34.57%	93
Total Respondents: 269		

Weston High School Lunch

Q4 How often do you purchase a "double portion" in the cafeteria?

Answered: 270 Skipped: 6



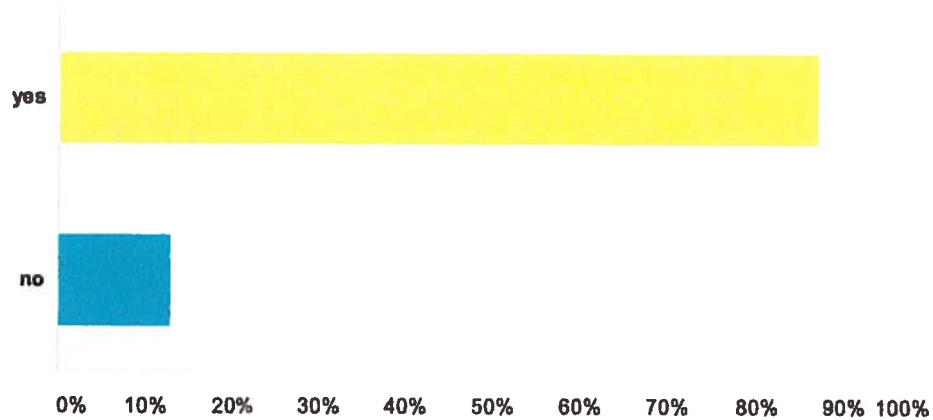
Answer Choices	Responses	
Everyday	7.78%	21
Often	20.00%	54
Sometimes	29.26%	79
Never	42.96%	116
Total		270

Weston High School Lunch

Q5 The current meal price at Weston High School is \$3.60. Some students purchase two meals or "double portions" for \$7.20.

Would you like to see a larger portion offered as a menu option for a selling price of less than \$7.20?

Answered: 269 Skipped: 7

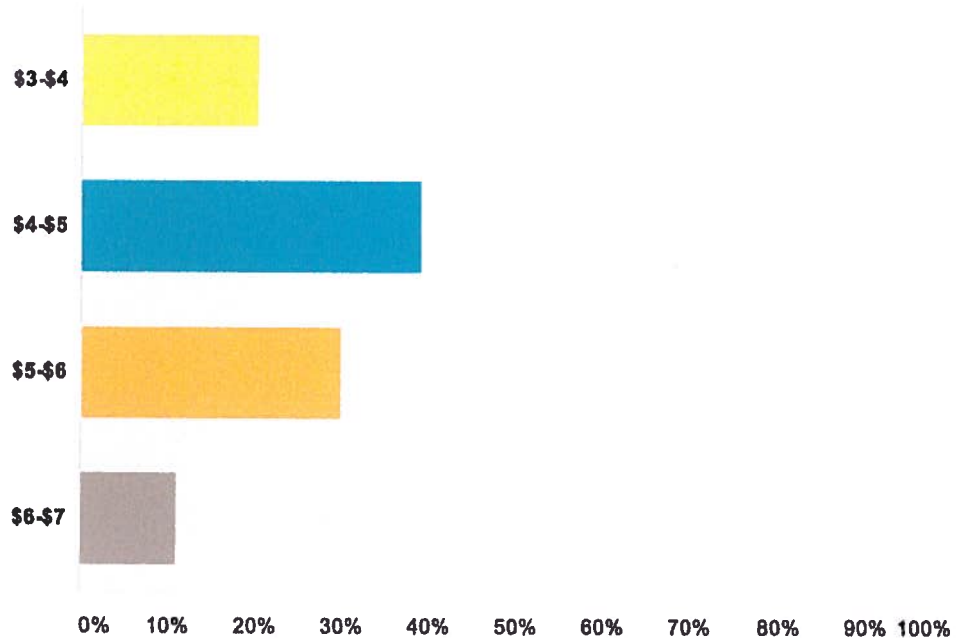


Answer Choices	Responses	
yes	86.99%	234
no	13.01%	35
Total		269

Weston High School Lunch

Q6 What is the maximum amount you would spend on an entrée that is the right portion size for you?

Answered: 272 Skipped: 4

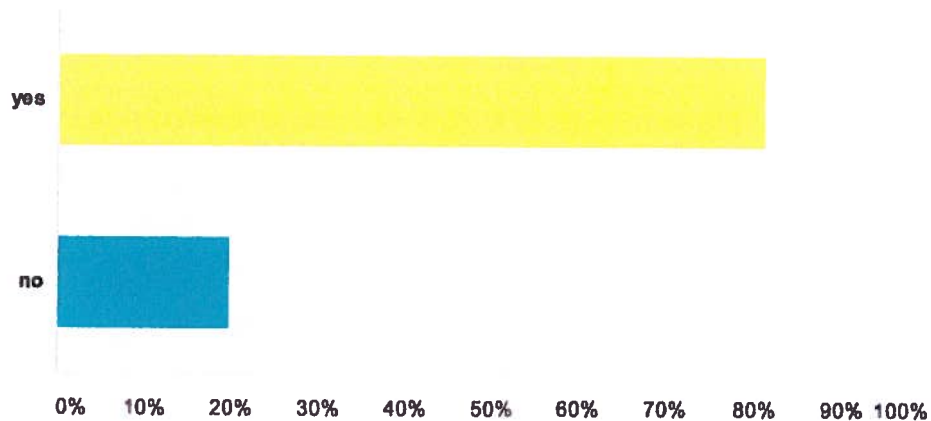


Answer Choices	Responses
\$3-\$4	20.22% 55
\$4-\$5	38.97% 106
\$5-\$6	29.78% 81
\$6-\$7	11.03% 30
Total	272

Weston High School Lunch

Q7 Would you like more variety in the choices of breads for your sandwiches and hamburgers (eg: artisan ciabatta bread & focaccia bread in addition to whole grain bread offerings and wraps)?

Answered: 266 Skipped: 10

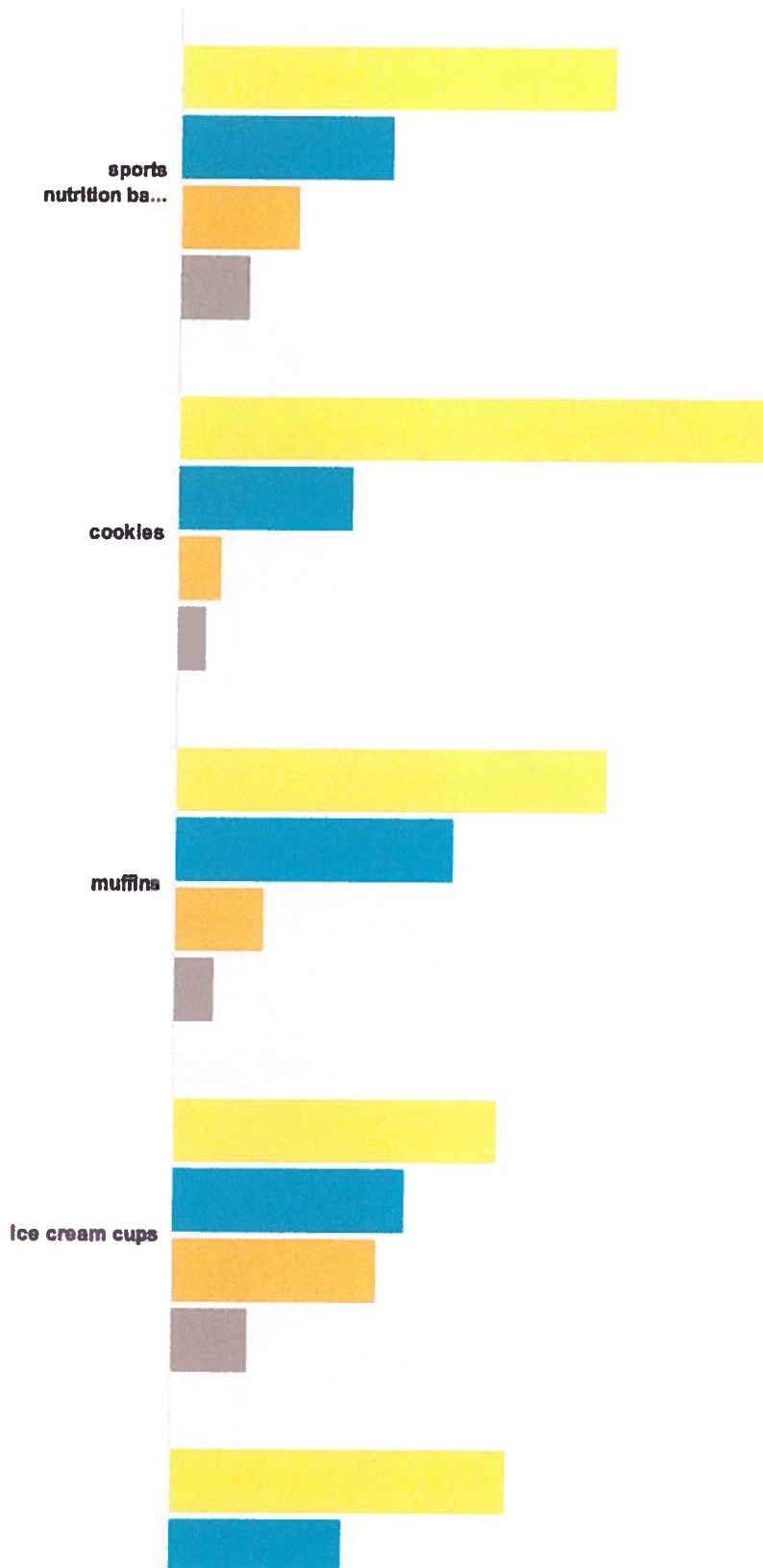


Answer Choices	Responses	
yes	81.20%	216
no	18.80%	53
Total Respondents: 266		

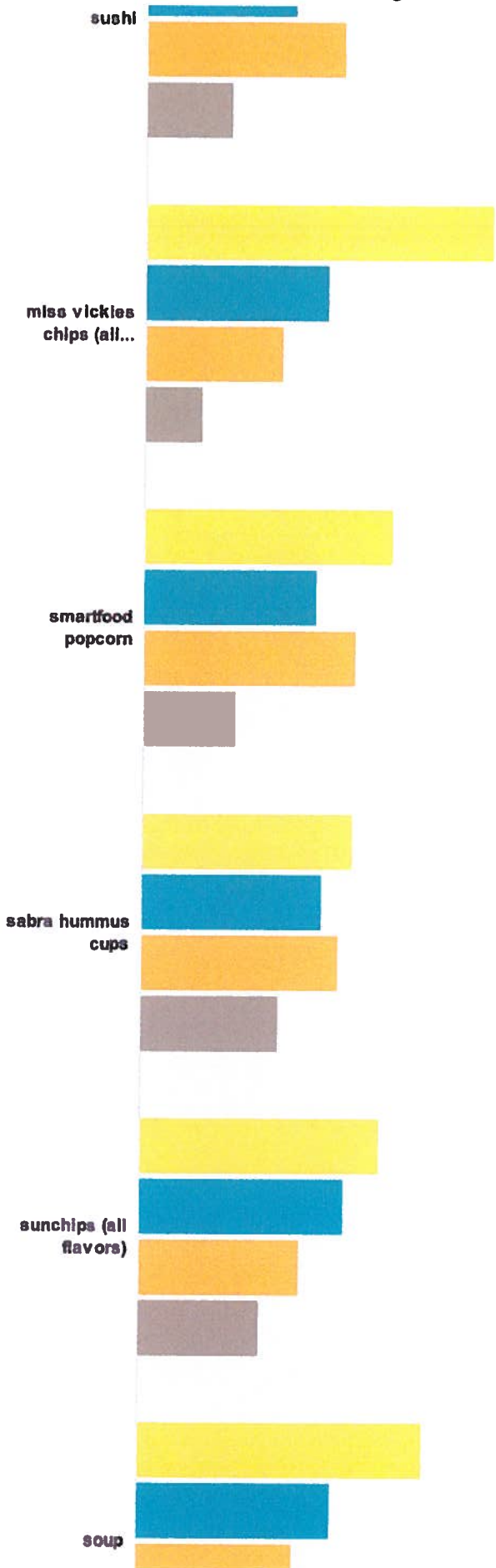
Weston High School Lunch

Q8 If the following food was eliminated from the cafeteria offerings, I would be disappointed.

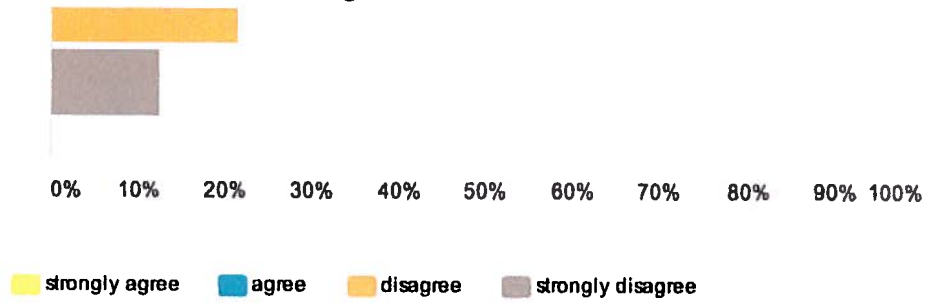
Answered: 275 Skipped: 1



Weston High School Lunch



Weston High School Lunch

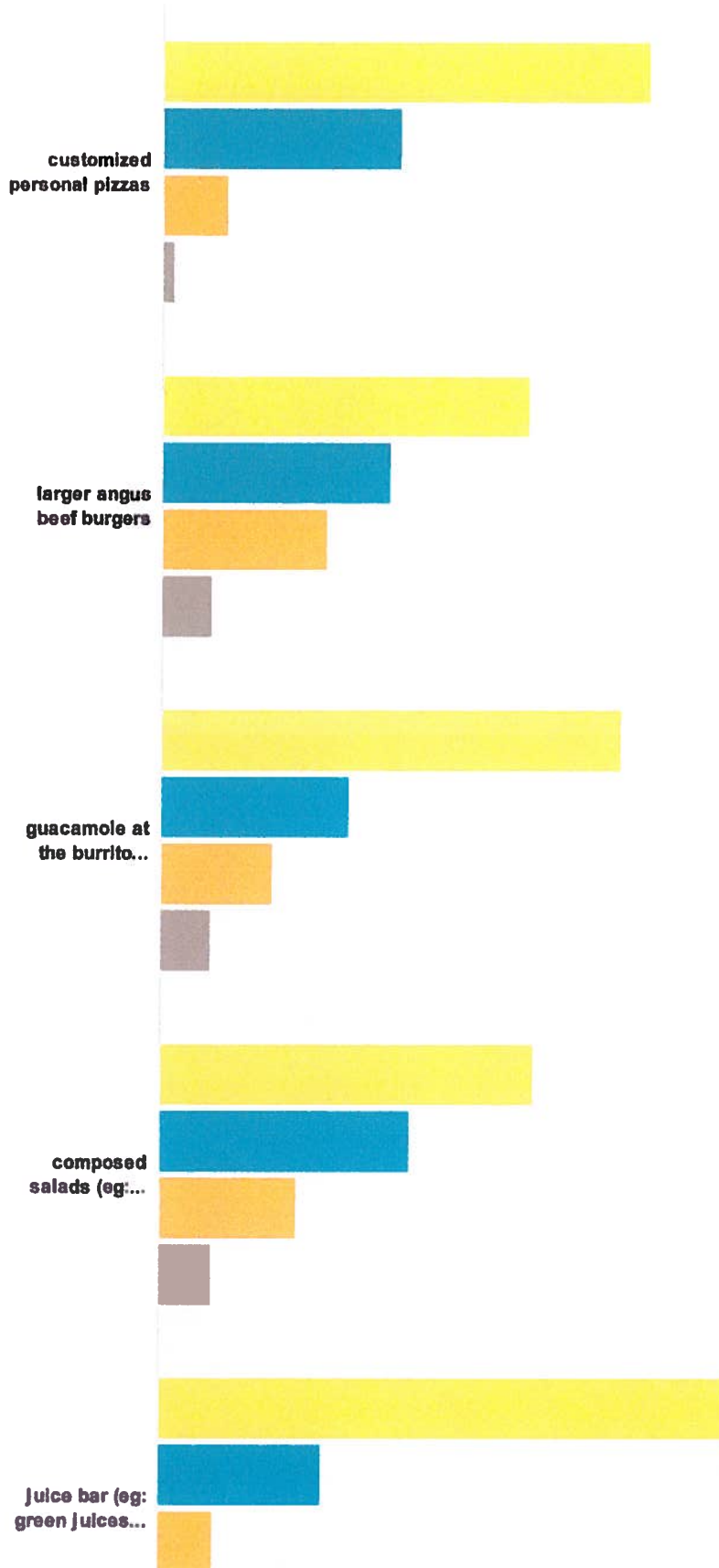


	strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	Total
sports nutrition bars (Luna, Clif, Nugo)	51.82% 142	25.55% 70	14.23% 39	8.39% 23	274
cookies	70.59% 192	20.96% 57	5.15% 14	3.31% 9	272
muffins	51.46% 141	33.21% 91	10.58% 29	4.74% 13	274
ice cream cups	38.69% 106	27.74% 76	24.45% 67	9.12% 25	274
sushi	40.00% 110	20.73% 57	27.27% 75	12.00% 33	275
miss vickes chips (all flavors)	47.81% 131	25.18% 69	18.98% 52	8.03% 22	274
smartfood popcorn	34.31% 94	23.72% 65	29.20% 80	12.77% 35	274
sabra hummus cups	28.94% 79	24.91% 68	27.11% 74	19.05% 52	273
sunchips (all flavors)	32.96% 89	28.15% 76	22.22% 60	16.67% 45	270
soup	39.26% 106	26.67% 72	21.48% 58	12.59% 34	270

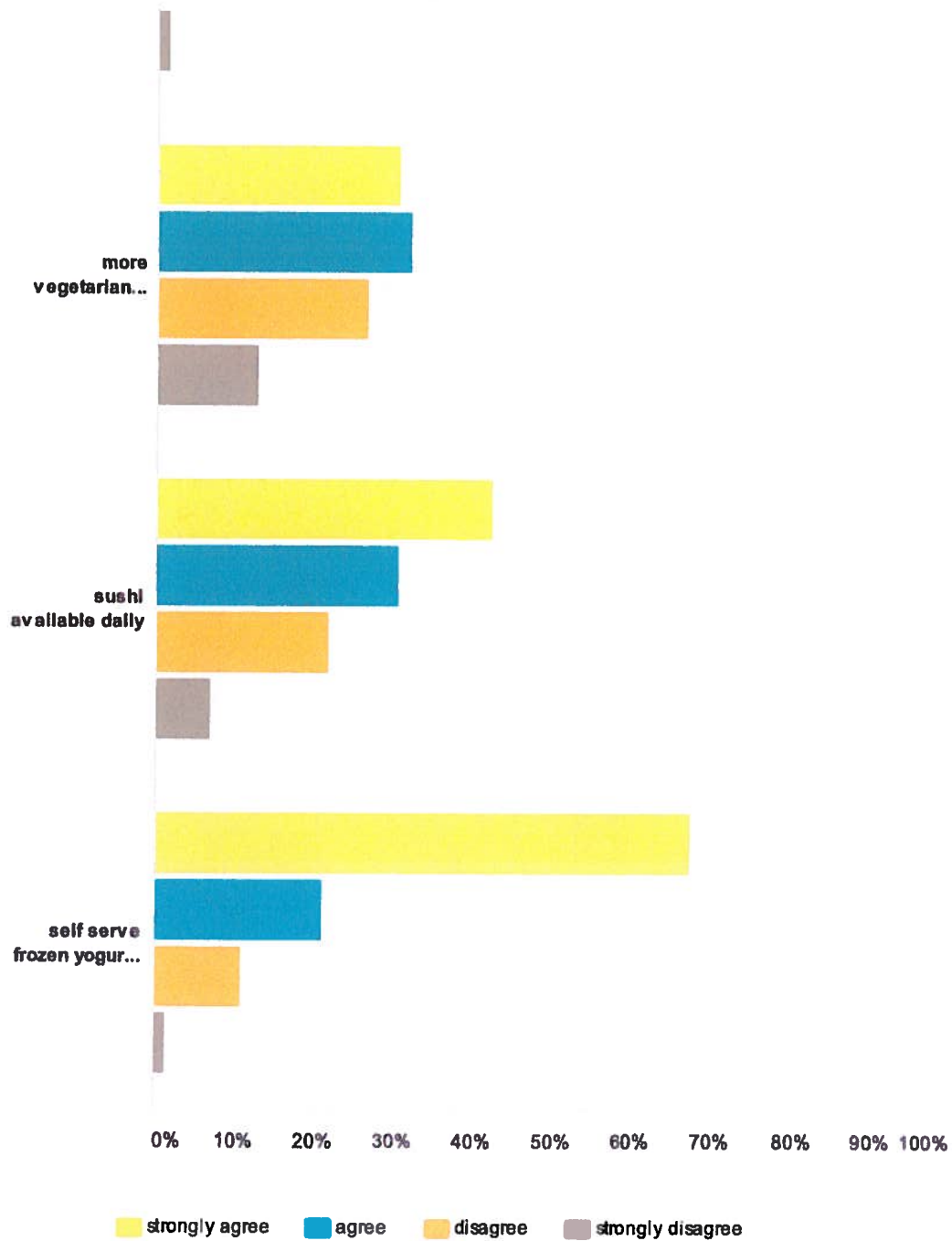
Weston High School Lunch

Q9 I would support the cafeteria offering....

Answered: 275 Skipped: 1



Weston High School Lunch



	strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	Total Respondents
customized personal pizzas	61.03% 166	29.78% 81	8.09% 22	1.47% 4	272
larger angus beef burgers	45.96% 125	28.68% 78	20.59% 56	6.25% 17	272
guacamole at the burrito station	57.72% 157	23.53% 64	13.97% 38	6.25% 17	272
composed salads (eg: superfood kale salad, wheat berry salad)	46.72% 128	31.39% 86	17.15% 47	6.57% 18	274
juice bar (eg: green juices, made to order smoothies)	71.53% 196	20.44% 56	6.93% 19	1.46% 4	274

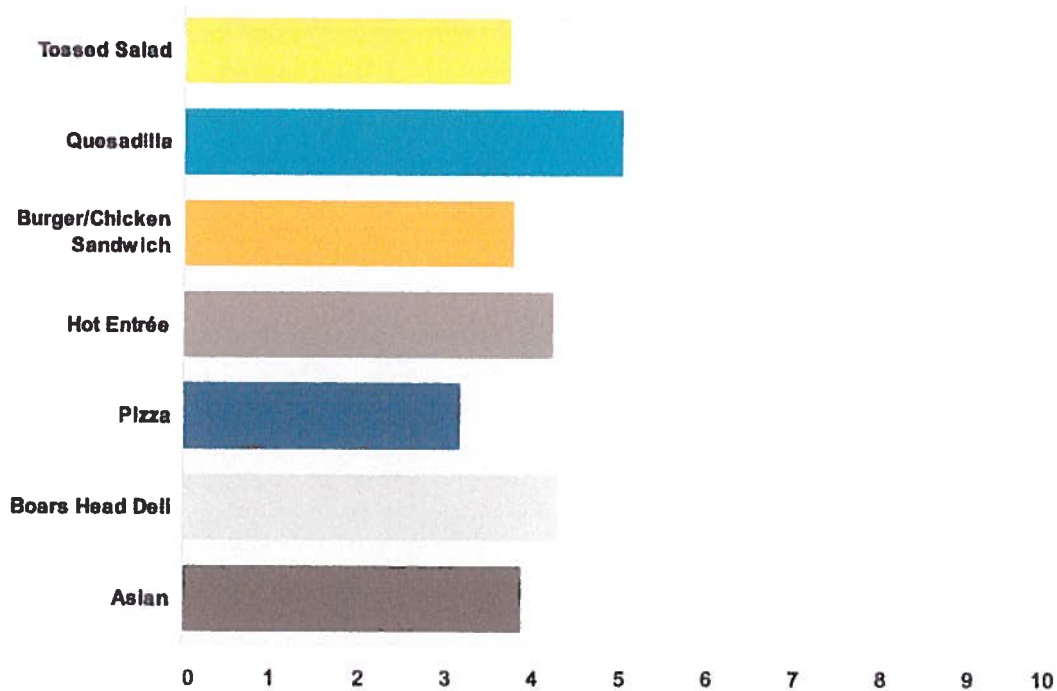
Weston High School Lunch

more vegetarian offerings (eg. Amy's veggie burger, grilled portobello mushroom)	30.55% 84	32.00% 88	28.55% 73	12.73% 35	275
sushi available daily	42.12% 115	30.40% 83	21.61% 59	6.96% 19	273
self serve frozen yogurt and toppings bar	67.27% 185	21.09% 58	10.91% 30	1.45% 4	275

Weston High School Lunch

Q10 Please rank the current food stations at Weston High School in order of your most favorite (1) to least favorite (7).

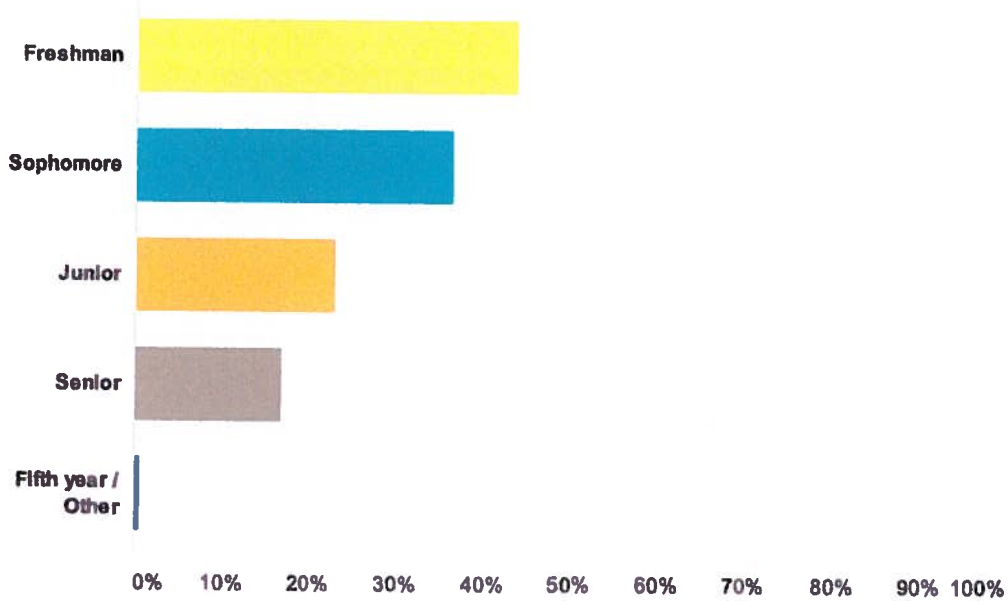
Answered: 268 Skipped: 8



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total	Average Ranking
Tossed Salad	17.69% 46	11.54% 30	12.31% 32	7.69% 20	10.77% 28	16.54% 43	23.46% 61	260	3.74
Quesadilla	27.07% 72	24.81% 66	14.29% 38	10.15% 27	10.53% 28	7.52% 20	5.64% 15	266	5.03
Burger/Chicken Sandwich	11.32% 30	13.96% 37	13.21% 35	15.09% 40	12.83% 34	15.47% 41	18.11% 48	265	3.77
Hot Entrée	8.24% 22	14.23% 38	23.22% 62	19.85% 53	20.97% 56	8.99% 24	4.49% 12	267	4.24
Pizza	5.22% 14	5.22% 14	9.33% 25	20.90% 56	19.40% 52	22.01% 59	17.91% 48	268	3.18
Boars Head Deli	20.97% 56	15.36% 41	14.23% 38	9.74% 26	13.11% 35	16.10% 43	10.49% 28	267	4.31
Asian	10.57% 28	15.85% 42	13.96% 37	16.98% 45	12.83% 34	13.58% 36	16.23% 43	265	3.89

Q1 What grade is your student in? (you may check more than one box if you have more than one student at Weston high school)

Answered: 153 Skipped: 1

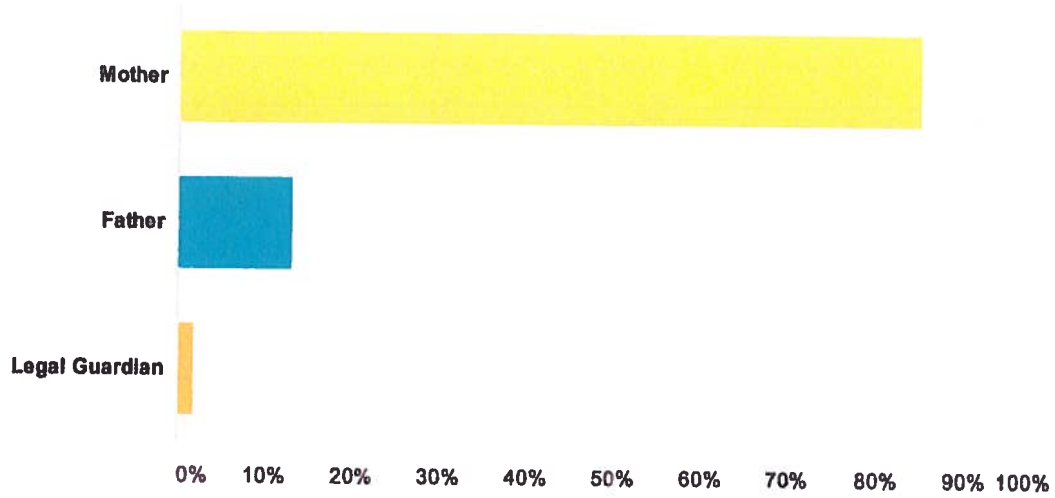


Answer Choices	Responses	
Freshman	43.79%	67
Sophomore	36.60%	56
Junior	22.88%	35
Senior	16.99%	26
Fifth year / Other	0.65%	1
Total Respondents: 153		

Weston High School Lunch (Parents)

Q2 I am my student's....

Answered: 153 Skipped: 1

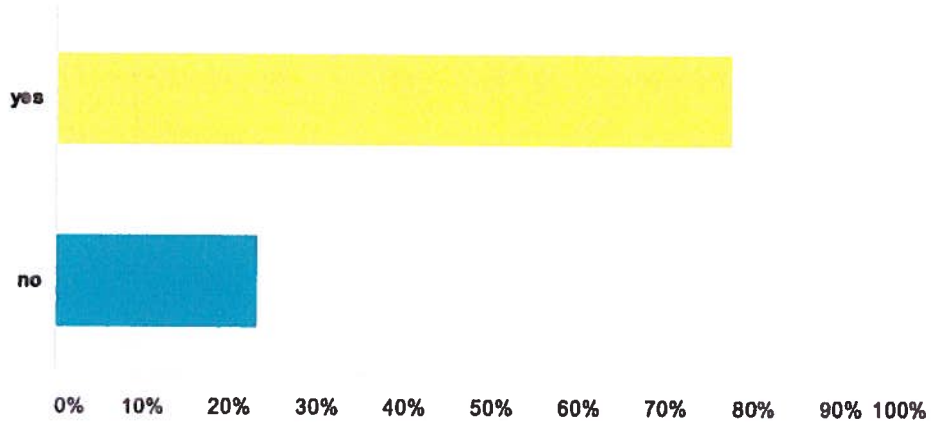


Answer Choices	Responses	
Mother	84.97%	130
Father	13.07%	20
Legal Guardian	1.96%	3
Total		153

Weston High School Lunch (Parents)

Q3 If larger portions were available at an increased price (eg: larger hamburger, larger dell sandwich), would you consider allowing your student purchase them?

Answered: 151 Skipped: 3

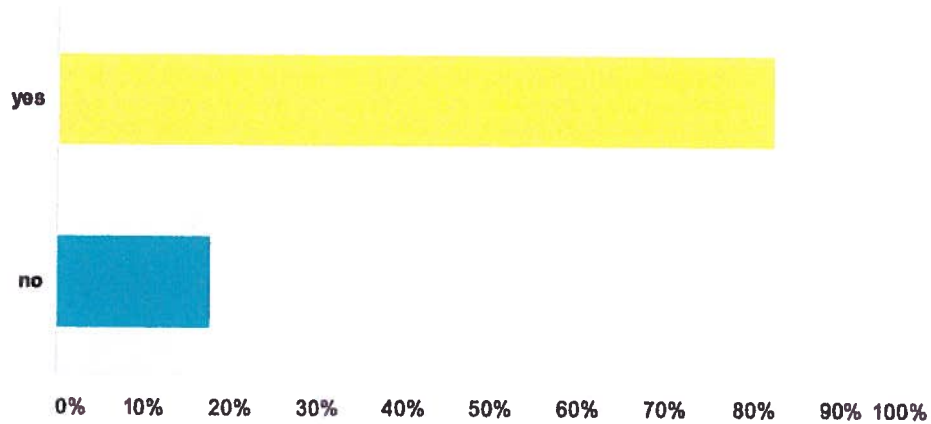


Answer Choices	Responses	
yes	77.48%	117
no	23.18%	35
Total Respondents: 151		

Weston High School Lunch (Parents)

Q4 The current student meal price at Weston High School is \$3.60. There are students who will purchase two entrees for \$7.20. Would you rather see a single larger portion offered at a price lower than \$7.20 in addition to the current \$3.60 offering?

Answered: 153 Skipped: 1

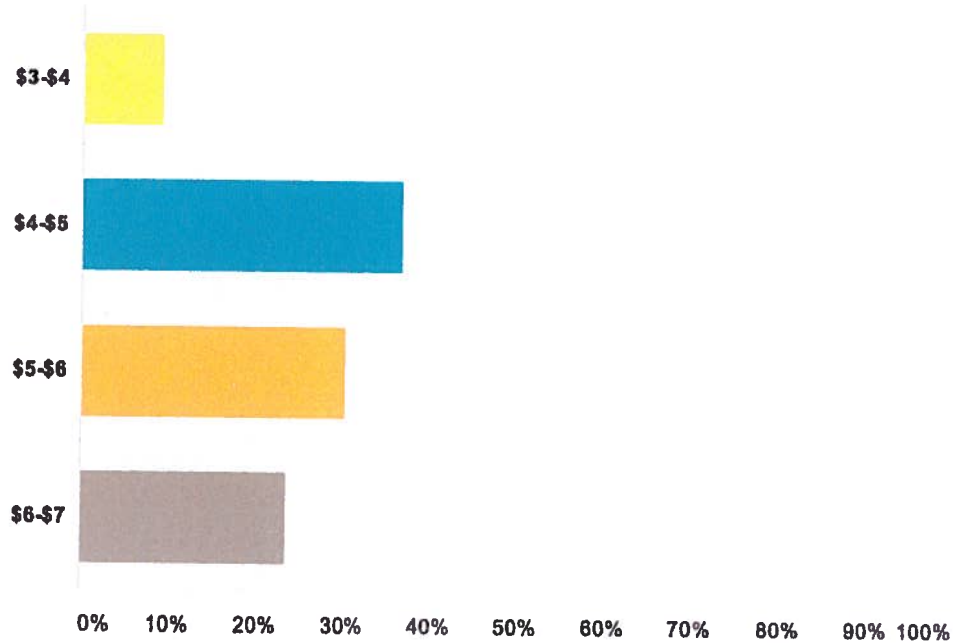


Answer Choices	Responses	
yes	82.35%	126
no	17.65%	27
Total Respondents: 153		

Weston High School Lunch (Parents)

Q5 What is the maximum amount you would let your student spend on an entree at Weston High School?

Answered: 152 Skipped: 2

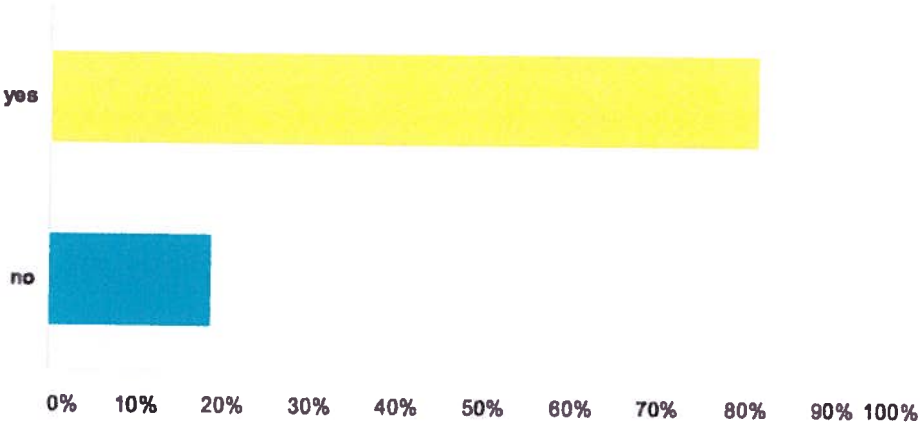


Answer Choices	Responses
\$3-\$4	9.21% 14
\$4-\$5	36.84% 56
\$5-\$6	30.26% 46
\$6-\$7	23.68% 36
Total	152

Weston High School Lunch (Parents)

Q6 Would you be open to your student having more choices of breads in the cafeteria (eg: artisan ciabatta bread & focaccia bread in addition to whole grain bread offerings and wraps)?

Answered: 151 Skipped: 3

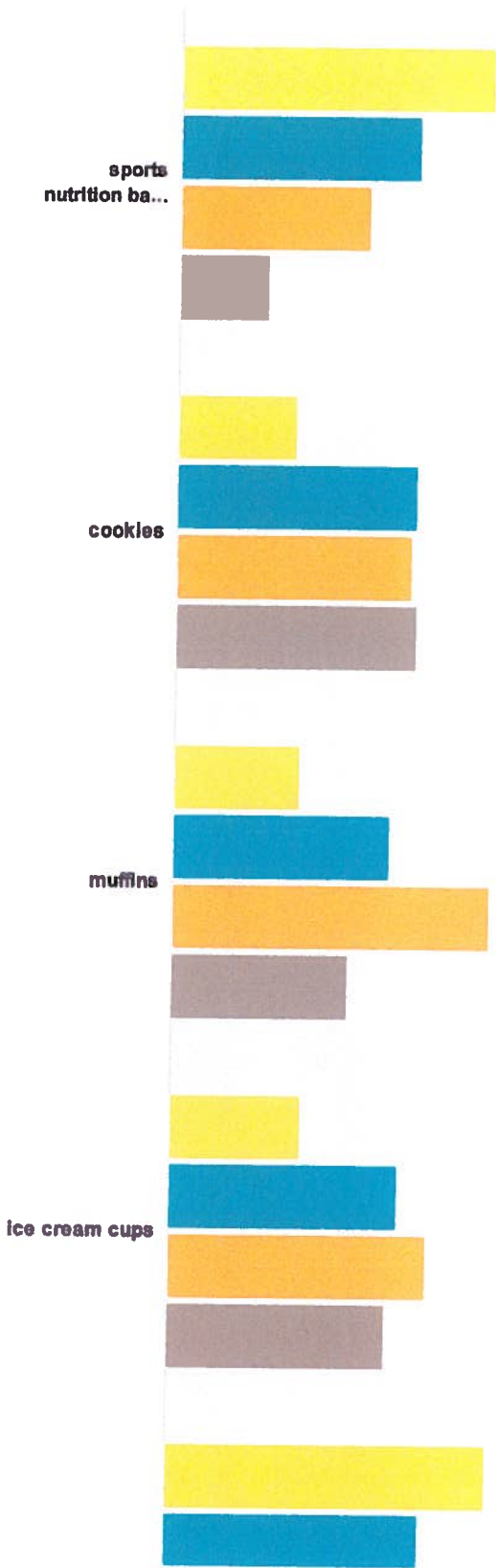


Answer Choices	Responses	
yes	81.46%	123
no	18.54%	28
Total Respondents: 151		

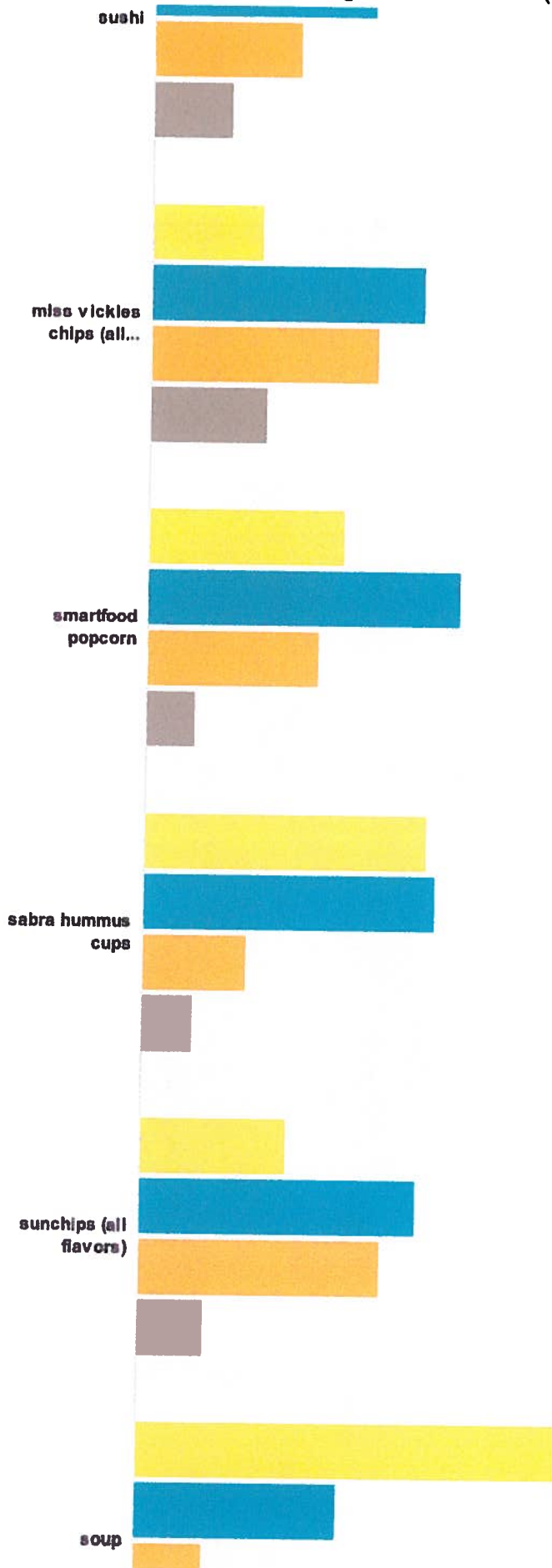
Weston High School Lunch (Parents)

Q7 If the following food was eliminated from the cafeteria offerings, I would be very disappointed.

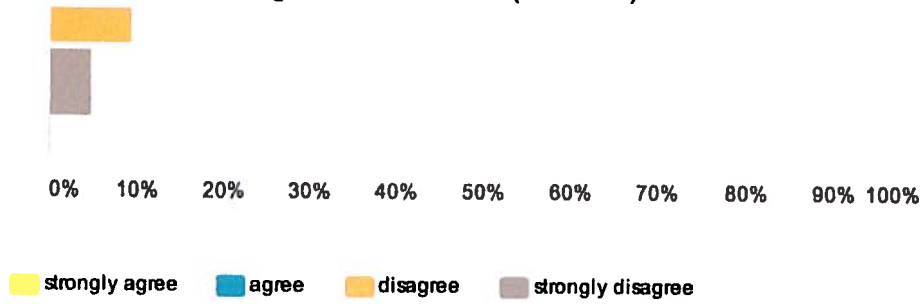
Answered: 153 Skipped: 1



Weston High School Lunch (Parents)



Weston High School Lunch (Parents)

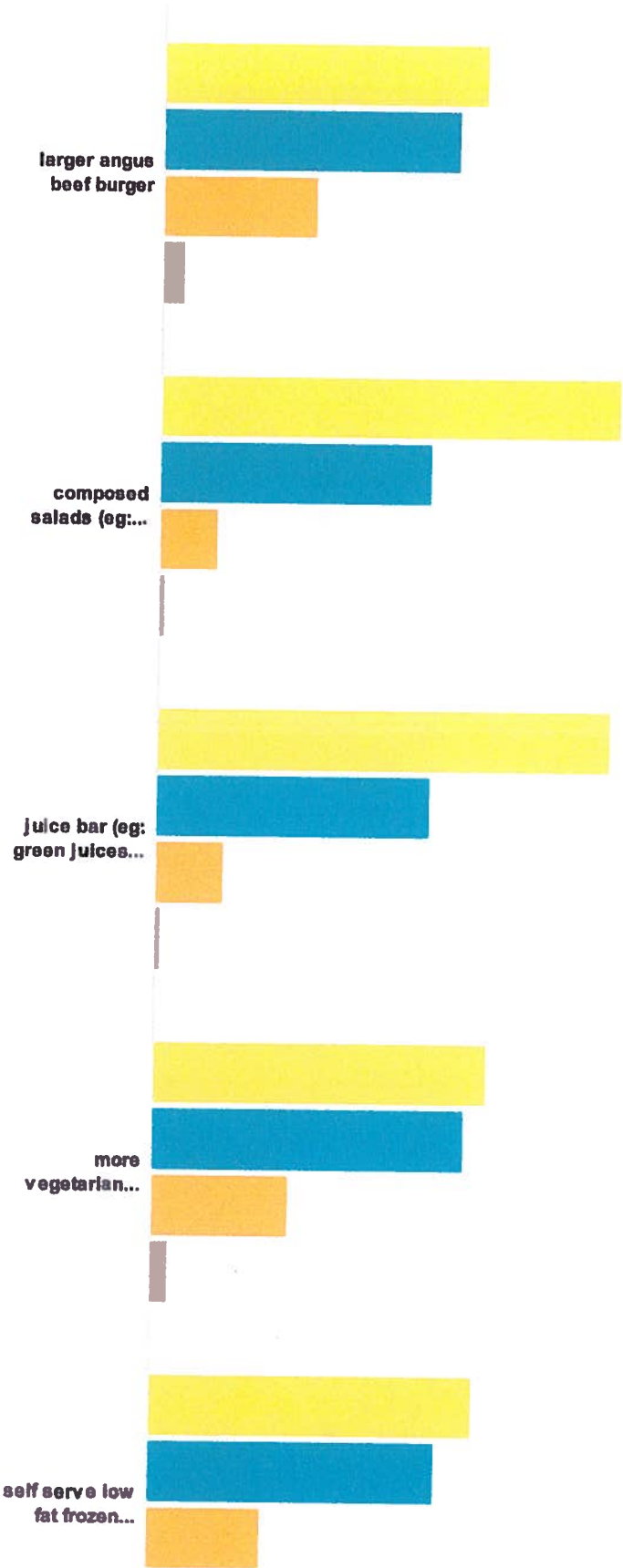


	strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	Total
sports nutrition bars (Luna, Clif, Nugo)	37.58% 56	28.86% 43	22.82% 34	10.74% 16	149
cookies	14.09% 21	28.86% 43	28.19% 42	28.86% 43	149
muffins	14.97% 22	25.85% 38	38.10% 56	21.09% 31	147
ice cream cups	15.75% 23	27.40% 40	30.82% 45	26.03% 38	146
sushi	38.51% 57	30.41% 45	20.27% 30	10.81% 16	148
miss vickies chips (all flavors)	15.28% 22	37.50% 54	31.25% 45	15.97% 23	144
smartfood popcorn	26.85% 40	42.95% 64	23.49% 35	6.71% 10	149
sabra hummus cups	38.78% 57	40.14% 59	14.29% 21	6.80% 10	147
sunchips (all flavors)	20.00% 29	37.93% 55	33.10% 48	8.97% 13	145
soup	58.11% 86	27.70% 41	9.46% 14	4.73% 7	148

Weston High School Lunch (Parents)

Q8 I would support the cafeteria offering...

Answered: 153 Skipped: 1



Weston High School Lunch (Parents)



0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

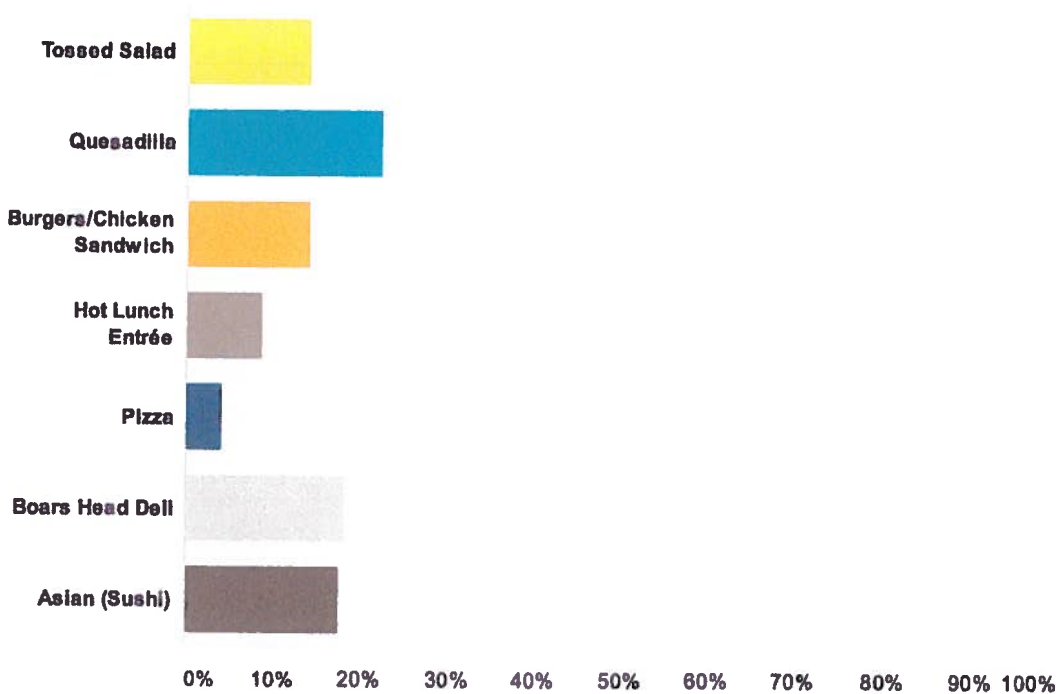
strongly agree agree disagree strongly disagree

	strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	Total Respondents
larger angus beef burger	40.67% 61	37.33% 56	19.33% 29	2.67% 4	150
composed salads (eg: superfood kale salad, wheat berry salad, quinoa)	57.89% 88	34.21% 52	7.24% 11	0.66% 1	152
juice bar (eg: green juices, made to order smoothies)	56.95% 86	34.44% 52	8.61% 13	0.66% 1	151
more vegetarian offerings (eg. Amy's veggie burger, grilled portobello mushroom)	42.00% 63	39.33% 59	17.33% 26	2.00% 3	150
self serve low fat frozen yogurt and toppings bar	40.79% 62	36.18% 55	14.47% 22	8.55% 13	152

Weston High School Lunch (Parents)

Q9 Which food station at Weston High School is your student's favorite?

Answered: 147 Skipped: 7

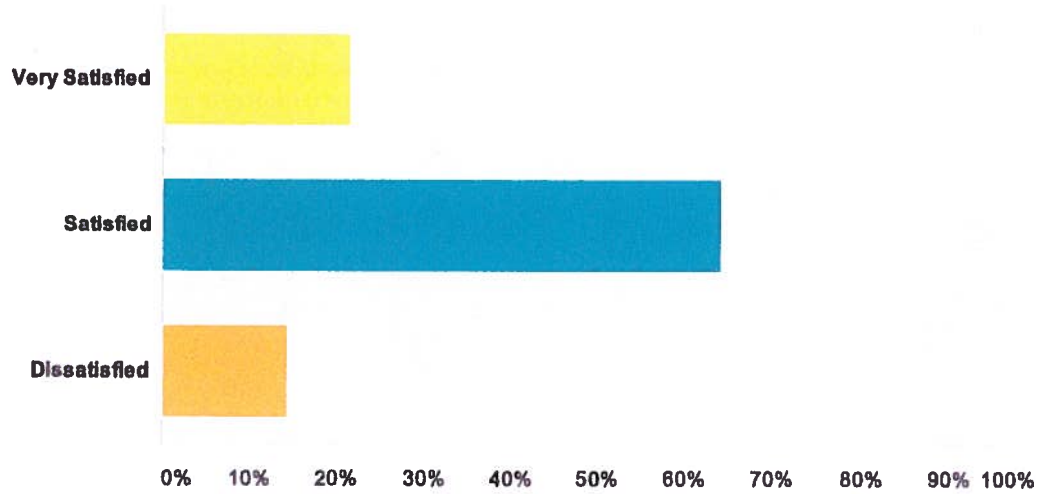


Answer Choices	Responses	
Tossed Salad	14.29%	21
Quesadilla	22.45%	33
Burgers/Chicken Sandwich	14.29%	21
Hot Lunch Entrée	8.84%	13
Pizza	4.08%	6
Boars Head Deli	18.37%	27
Asian (Sushi)	17.69%	26
Total		147

Weston High School Lunch (Parents)

Q10 In general, how satisfied are you with the current Weston High School lunch program? (If you select any box other than "very satisfied" please let us know what it would take to receive a "very satisfied" rating)

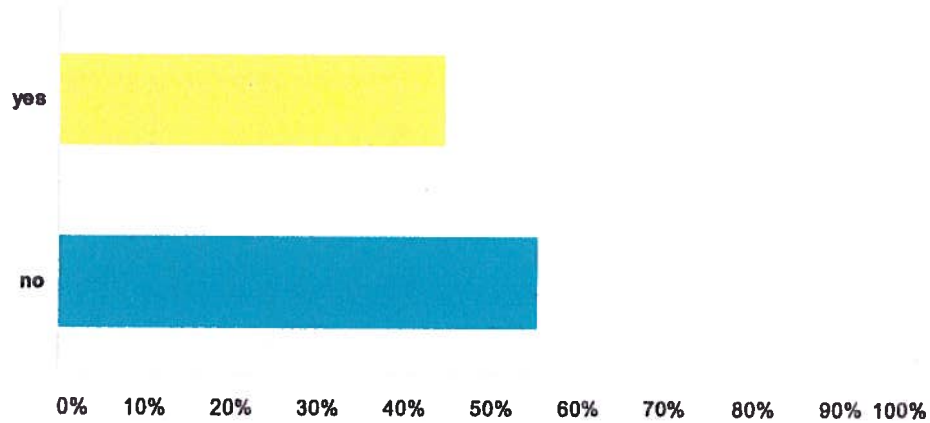
Answered: 153 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
Very Satisfied	21.57%	33
Satisfied	64.05%	98
Dissatisfied	14.38%	22
Total		153

Q1 If larger portions were available at an increased price (eg: larger hamburger, larger deli sandwich), would you consider purchasing them?

Answered: 76 Skipped: 1

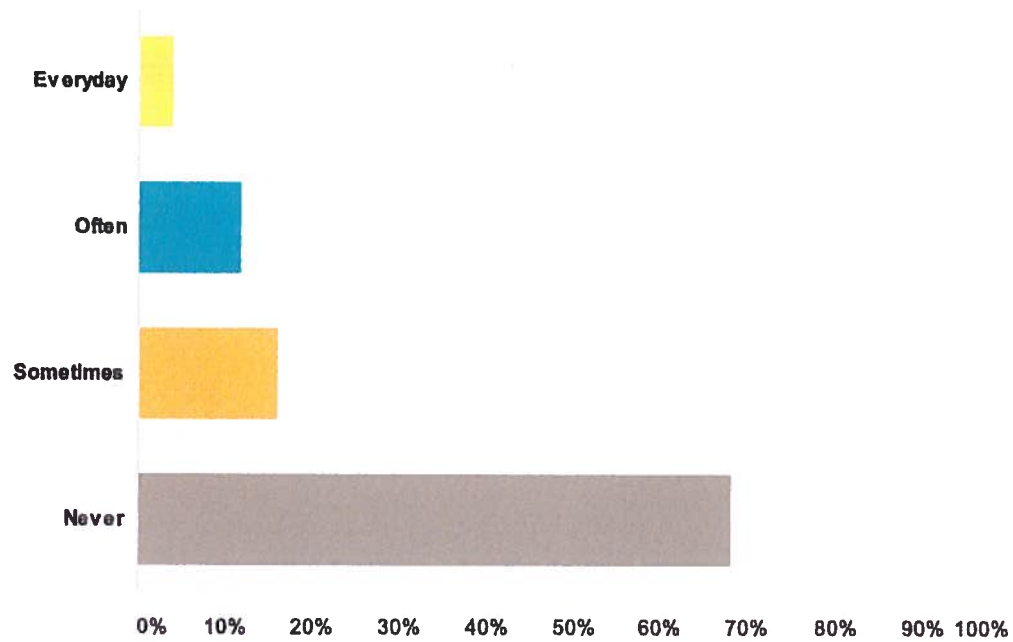


Answer Choices	Responses	
yes	44.74%	34
no	55.26%	42
Total Respondents: 76		

Weston High School Lunch (Adults)

Q2 How often do you purchase a "double portion" in the cafeteria?

Answered: 75 Skipped: 2

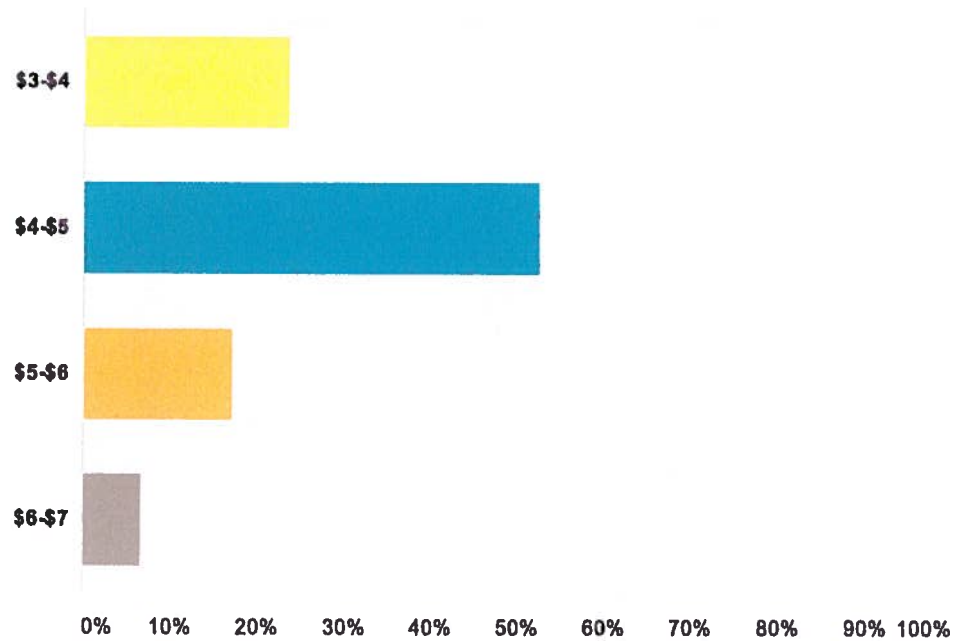


Answer Choices	Responses	
Everyday	4.00%	3
Often	12.00%	9
Sometimes	16.00%	12
Never	68.00%	51
Total		75

Weston High School Lunch (Adults)

Q3 What is the maximum amount you would spend on an entrée that is the right portion size for you?

Answered: 76 Skipped: 1

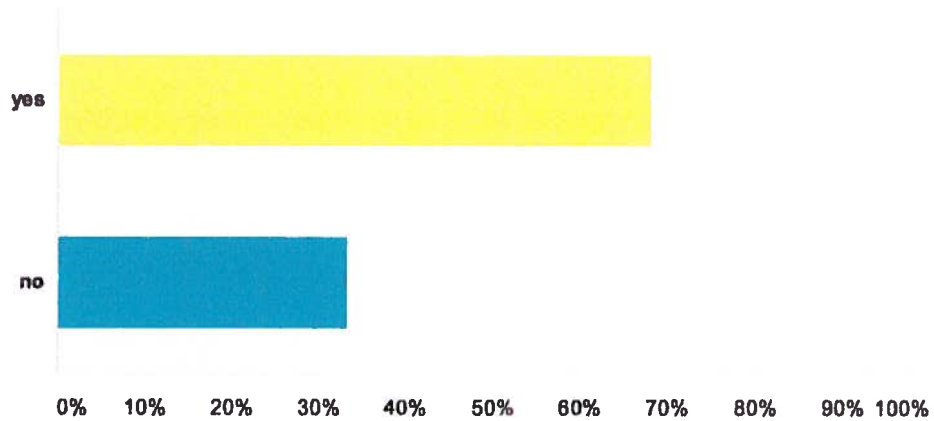


Answer Choices	Responses
\$3-\$4	23.68% 18
\$4-\$5	52.63% 40
\$5-\$6	17.11% 13
\$6-\$7	6.58% 5
Total	76

Weston High School Lunch (Adults)

Q4 Would you like more variety in the choices of breads for your sandwiches and hamburgers (eg: artisan ciabatta bread & focaccia bread in addition to whole grain bread offerings and wraps)?

Answered: 75 Skipped: 2

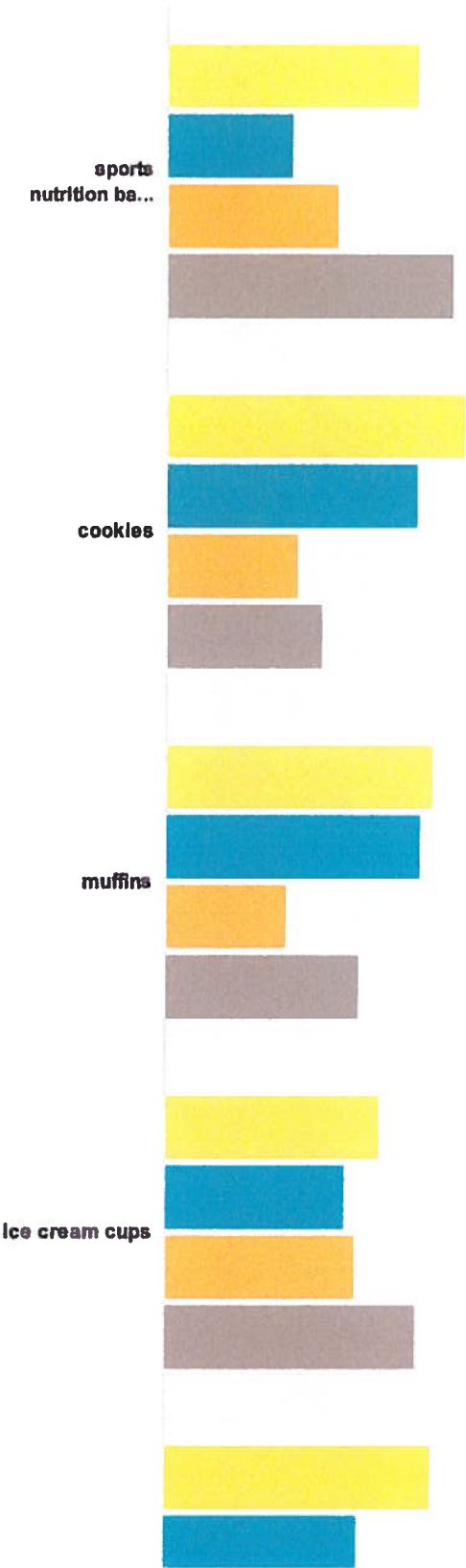


Answer Choices	Responses
yes	68.00% 51
no	33.33% 25
Total Respondents: 75	

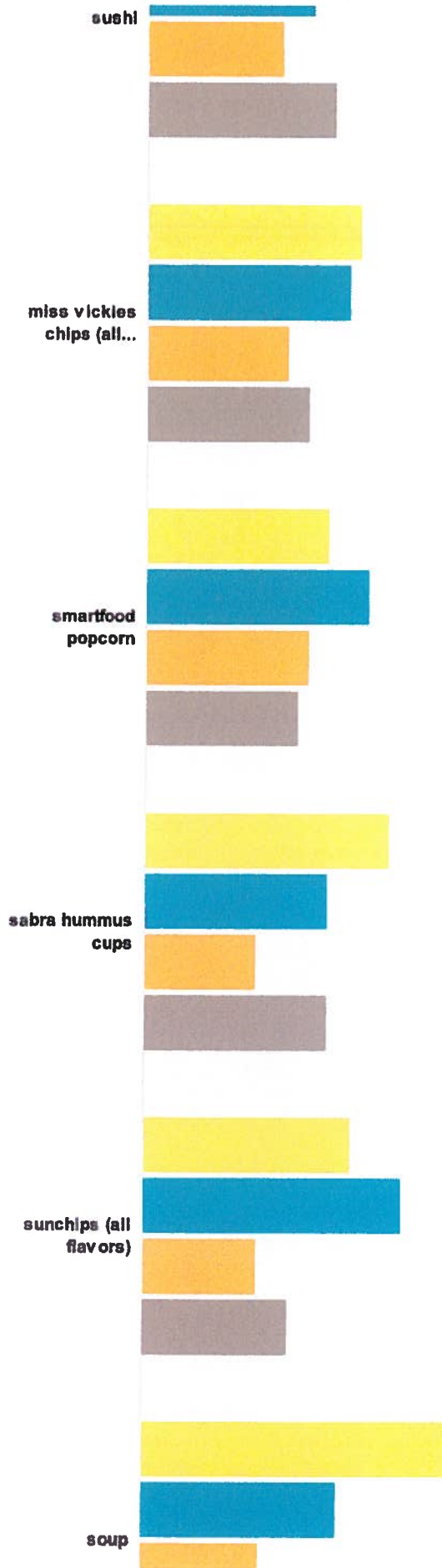
Weston High School Lunch (Adults)

Q5 If the following food was eliminated from the cafeteria offerings, I would be disappointed.

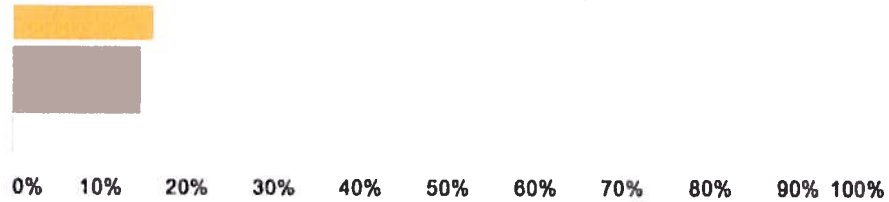
Answered: 76 Skipped: 1



Weston High School Lunch (Adults)



Weston High School Lunch (Adults)



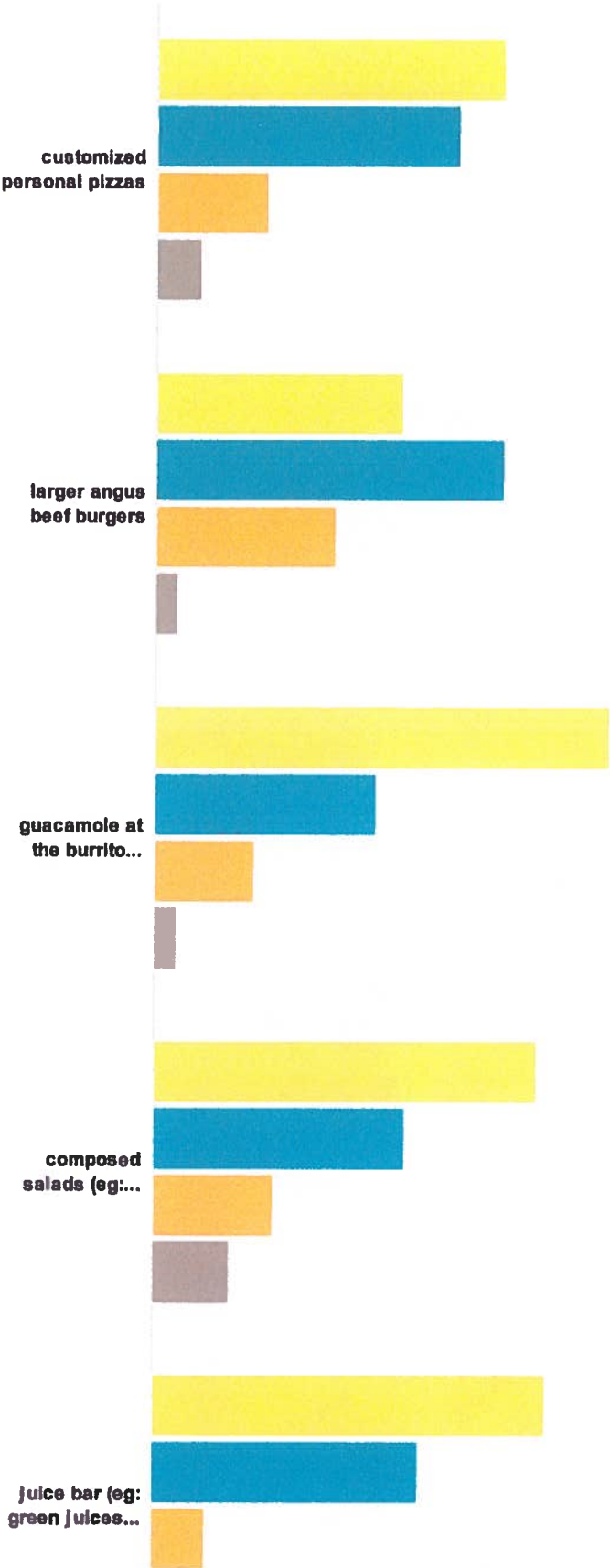
■ strongly agree
 ■ agree
 ■ disagree
 ■ strongly disagree

	strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	Total
sports nutrition bars (Luna, Clif, Nugo)	30.14% 22	15.07% 11	20.55% 15	34.25% 25	73
cookies	35.71% 25	30.00% 21	15.71% 11	18.57% 13	70
muffins	31.88% 22	30.43% 21	14.49% 10	23.19% 16	69
ice cream cups	25.71% 18	21.43% 15	22.86% 16	30.00% 21	70
sushi	31.88% 22	23.19% 16	18.84% 13	26.09% 18	69
miss vickies chips (all flavors)	29.58% 21	28.17% 20	19.72% 14	22.54% 16	71
smartfood popcorn	25.35% 18	30.99% 22	22.54% 16	21.13% 15	71
sabra hummus cups	33.80% 24	25.35% 18	15.49% 11	25.35% 18	71
sunchips (all flavors)	28.57% 20	35.71% 25	15.71% 11	20.00% 14	70
soup	41.89% 31	27.03% 20	16.22% 12	14.86% 11	74

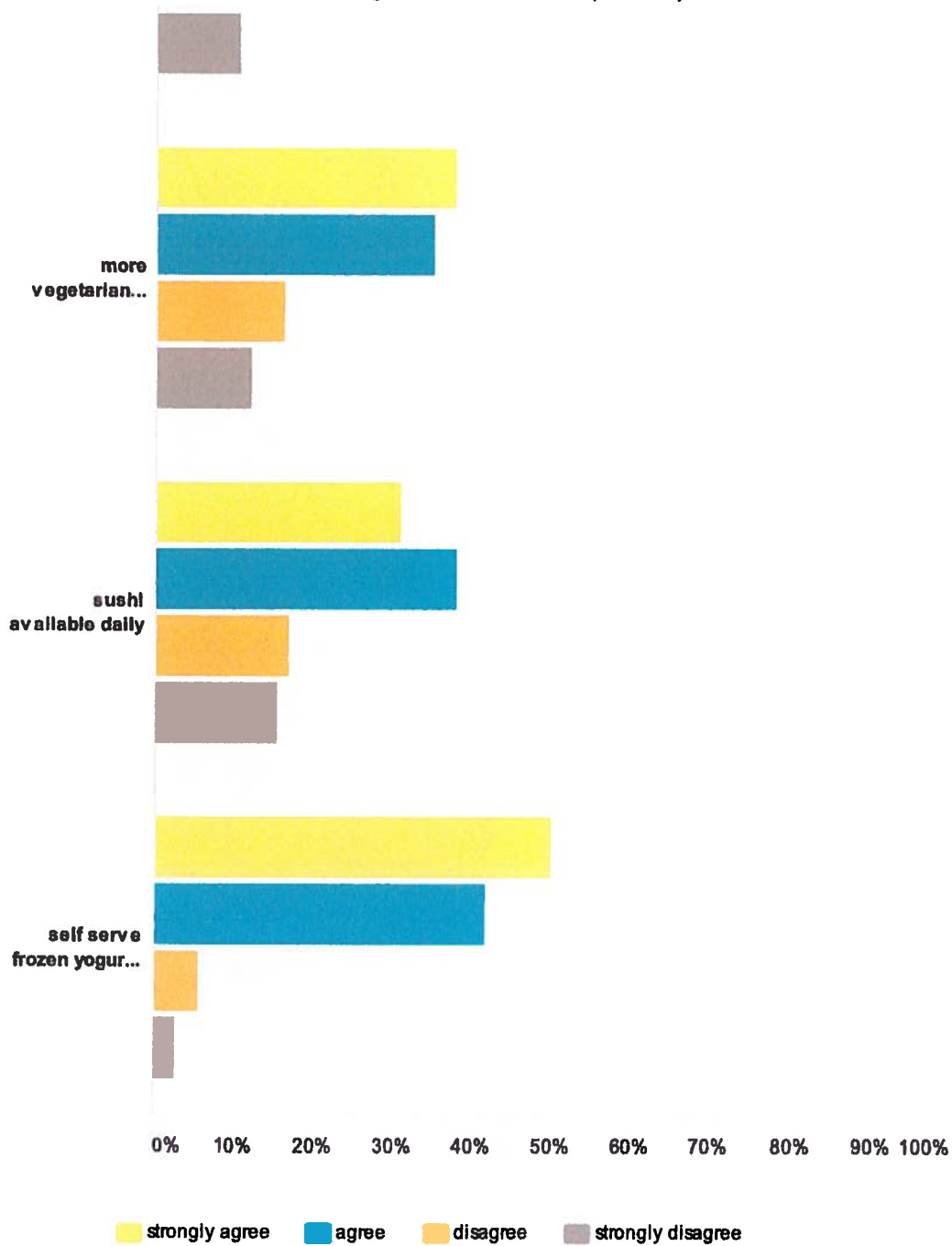
Weston High School Lunch (Adults)

Q6 I would support the cafeteria offering....

Answered: 77 Skipped: 0



Weston High School Lunch (Adults)



	strongly agree	agree	disagree	strongly disagree	Total Respondents
customized personal pizzas	43.66% 31	38.03% 27	14.08% 10	5.63% 4	71
larger angus beef burgers	30.99% 22	43.66% 31	22.54% 16	2.82% 2	71
guacamole at the burrito station	56.94% 41	27.78% 20	12.50% 9	2.78% 2	72
composed salads (eg: superfood kale salad, wheat berry salad)	47.95% 35	31.51% 23	15.07% 11	9.59% 7	73
juice bar (eg: green juices, made to order smoothies)	49.33% 37	33.33% 25	8.67% 5	10.67% 8	75

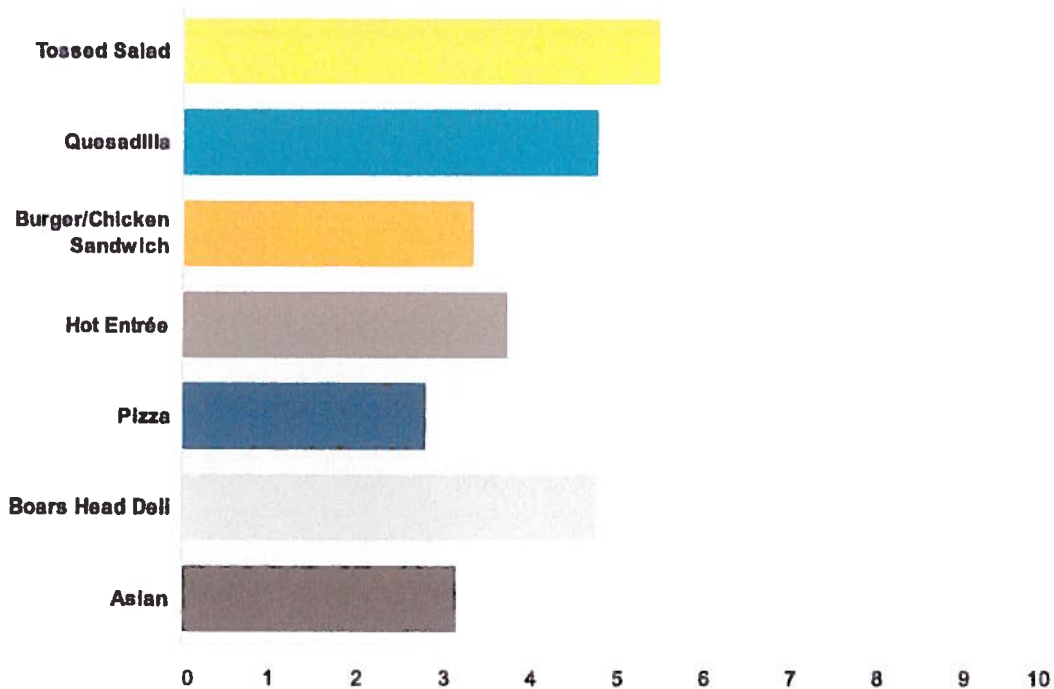
Weston High School Lunch (Adults)

more vegetarian offerings (eg. Amy's veggie burger, grilled portobello mushroom)	37.84% 28	35.14% 26	18.22% 12	12.16% 9	74
sushi available daily	30.99% 22	38.03% 27	16.90% 12	15.49% 11	71
self serve frozen yogurt and toppings bar	50.00% 36	41.67% 30	5.56% 4	2.78% 2	72

Weston High School Lunch (Adults)

Q7 Please rank the current food stations at Weston High School in order of your most favorite (1) to least favorite (7).

Answered: 73 Skipped: 4



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total	Average Ranking
Tossed Salad	56.16% 41	9.59% 7	6.85% 5	6.85% 5	6.85% 5	2.74% 2	10.96% 8	73	5.49
Quesadilla	12.33% 9	24.66% 18	21.92% 16	21.92% 16	10.96% 8	5.48% 4	2.74% 2	73	4.78
Burger/Chicken Sandwich	4.11% 3	9.59% 7	12.33% 9	15.07% 11	23.29% 17	20.55% 15	15.07% 11	73	3.34
Hot Entrée	5.48% 4	10.96% 8	20.55% 15	20.55% 15	13.70% 10	15.07% 11	13.70% 10	73	3.74
Pizza	4.11% 3	5.48% 4	8.22% 6	10.96% 8	19.18% 14	23.29% 17	28.77% 21	73	2.79
Boars Head Deli	15.28% 11	27.78% 20	15.28% 11	18.06% 13	8.33% 6	12.50% 9	2.78% 2	72	4.75
Asian	2.74% 2	12.33% 9	15.07% 11	6.85% 5	17.81% 13	20.55% 15	24.66% 18	73	3.15

WSJ 5-30-2014

The First Lady's Calories

Page A14

One reason American politics is so polarized is the White House tendency to blindside critics with personal attacks that misrepresent their views. This week's school lunch drive-by is a classic of the genre, with first lady Michelle Obama and even the White House cook claiming Republicans are in favor of childhood obesity.

In remarks Tuesday, Mrs. Obama denounced what she called "efforts in Congress to roll back" federal nutrition standards for school cafeterias. "It's unacceptable to me not just as first lady, but as a mother. . . . Our kids deserve so much better than that. They really do," she said. The first lady followed up with a New York Times op-ed, "The Campaign for Junk Food," in which she assailed "a bill to override science."

Meanwhile, Sam Kass, who used to be an executive chef and now runs Mrs. Obama's Let's Move program, declared that this anti-science bill would be "absolutely devastating" for child health, adding that "industry interests are definitely at play." So Republicans aren't merely wrong, they're also on the take from the food lobby.

The GOP apparently provoked this carpet bombing by asking for modest flexibility in the nutrition regulations meant to promote more fruits, vegetables and whole grains and reduce meats and starch. The changes were mandated by a 2010 bill that passed with rare bipartisan support, but their implementation by the first lady and Agriculture Department has become a rolling fiasco.

The rules impose very specific quotas for the type and amount of food served. Cafeterias, for example, must feature five "vegetable subgroups" across "dark green, red/orange, beans/peas (legumes), starchy and 'other' veg-

The new school lunch rules have become a rolling fiasco.

etables." Schools have had to eliminate popular menu items such as sandwiches. Two slices of bread over five days exceed the weekly grain limits.

The rules are as poorly devised as they are overly proscriptive, and often the school lunch calorie minimums cannot be satisfied with any combination of the

low-calorie Let's Move-approved foods. Thus an investigation earlier this year by the Government Accountability Office reads like "The Jungle." The GAO auditors found that some schools were adding "gelatin, ice cream, or condiments such as butter, jelly, ranch dressing or cheese sauce to become compliant." That "likely increased" the sugar, salt and fat in kid diets.

There are reports of student boycotts and lunch strikes, while other schools have diverted funds from teaching to reconfigure their menus to federal specifications. After the rules had already gone into effect in 2012, the Ag Department itself issued an emergency suspension and again for 2013.

Republicans aren't even trying to repeal this exercise in cuisine central planning. Their fix would let a school apply for a temporary exemption if the standards force the lunch line to run a deficit after six months.

And by the way, can the first lady at least get her facts right? She asserted that, "As a result of these changes, in many school districts—which is important to note—the number of students participating in the school lunch program has actually increased." The GAO reports that the National School Lunch Program plunged by 1.2 million students or 3.7% since the new standards were first enforced, the first such decline in 30 years.

If the White House can politicize lunch, no wonder Washington can't get anything done.

Not All Schools Have Inflexible Lunch Rules

In the Journal editorial "The First Lady's Calories" (May 30, you quote Michelle Obama denouncing what she called "efforts in Congress to roll back" federal nutrition standards for school cafeterias. She also says: "It's unacceptable to me not just as first lady, but as a mother . . . Our kids deserve so much better than that. They really do." We understand that the president's children attend the Sidwell Friends School in Washington, D.C., and the menu for Monday, June 2, gave them a choice. The first lady might want to check with them and see what their choice was.

The menu included vegetarian tortilla soup, classic Caesar salad, black bean and rice salad with chili lime vinaigrette, all-beef hot dogs, brats, leanie dogs, steamed broccoli, baked Idaho wedges and sliced melon.

ROSEMARY MUCKLOW
*North American Meat
Association
Oakland, Calif.*

WSJ 6-14-2014 P. A10

Use of Video Monitoring Devices and Video Recordings

The Board of Education authorizes the installation of and use of video cameras which produce video coverage and recordings in its school buildings and on school grounds to enhance the safety and security of students, staff, and visitors; to protect school property; to monitor student and adult behavior; and as may otherwise be permitted by state and federal law. The Board of Education further authorizes the administration to allow access to security cameras and video recordings by law enforcement for the limited purposes, and in the limited manner, specified in administrative regulation 1331.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes §10-221, Boards of Education to prescribe rules

Connecticut General Statutes §31-48d, Employers Engaged in Electronic Monitoring

Title I – Amendments to the Individuals with Disabilities Act. (PL 105-17)

Family Education Rights and Privacy Act

Policy References:

Policy and Administrative Regulation 5145.12, Search and Seizure

Policy and Administrative Regulation 5131.2, Video and Audio Recording on School Buses

Policy adopted: _____

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Weston, Connecticut

Use of Video Monitoring Devices and Video Recordings

Student Records

1. The District will comply with provisions of law regarding student records including the Family Education and Privacy Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as applicable, in the District's use of video recordings ("Recordings"). Recordings considered for retention as a part of a student's behavioral record will be maintained in accordance with established procedures governing access, review and release of student records.
2. The District will include notice in parent/student handbooks that video monitoring and recording devices ("Cameras") are in use in schools and on school grounds. The District will include, as a part of its notice procedures, a link to this regulation and the governing policy.
3. Students should assume that the Cameras are in operation at all times.
4. A notice shall be posted at the entrance to each school indicating that Cameras are in operation. Such notice will be posted in a conspicuous location.

Staff Records

1. Recordings considered for retention as part of an employee's personnel record will be maintained in accordance with established Board personnel policies, administrative regulations and labor agreements governing access, review and release of employee personnel records. This provision applies to all employees of the District as well as all contractors, agents and their employees.
2. The District will post notices in the main office of each school, and in a conspicuous location at other school facilities, that Cameras are in use in the District.
3. Staff should assume that the Cameras are in operation at all times.

Storage/Security

1. Recordings, and all copies thereof, will be stored and secured to ensure confidentiality.

2. Recordings identified for review of student or adult incident will be maintained in a digital format pending resolution. The Recording will then be either released for erasure or retained as necessary as a part of the student's behavioral record, employee's personnel record, or in another appropriate location in the case of an adult who is not an employee in accordance with the established District procedures.

Use

1. Cameras will be installed and used as directed by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.
2. Staff and students are prohibited from tampering with or otherwise interfering with Camera equipment.
3. Recordings will be stored for the period of at least thirty (30) days.

Viewing Requests

1. Requests for viewing Recordings will be limited to the administration, security personnel, and other individuals authorized by the Superintendent or his/her designee. In the event that a Recording is utilized in connection with student discipline, the parent/guardian of the student, and/or the student if he/she has reached the age of eighteen (18), will be permitted to view the recording being used in connection with the discipline. In the event that a Recording is utilized in connection with staff discipline, the staff member (and his/her union representative at the request of the employee) will be permitted to view the recording being used in connection with the discipline.
2. Except as stated below under Law Enforcement, requests for viewing Recordings by parties other than those listed herein will only be granted as may otherwise be required by law. Video recordings are related to school security, and in some cases may constitute confidential educational records pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"), and are thus exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA").
3. Only the portion of the Recording concerning a specific incident(s) will be made available for viewing.
4. Approval/denial for viewing will be made in writing within no more than 7 school days of receipt of request and so communicated to the requesting individuals(s).
5. Recordings will be made available for viewing within no more than 5 school days of the request approval.

Viewing

1. Actual viewing will be permitted at school sites only or as otherwise required by law.
2. All viewing will be done in the presence of a school or district administrator.
3. A written log will be maintained of those viewing Recordings including date of viewing, reason for viewing, the date the recording was made, and the signature of the viewer.
4. Recordings remain the property of the District and may be reproduced only in accordance with law, applicable District student and personnel records policies and procedures, and applicable labor agreements.

Law Enforcement

1. For the purposes of this section ("Law Enforcement"), "External Cameras" shall mean Cameras which monitor the areas on the outside of the schools and other District buildings. "Internal Cameras" shall mean Cameras which monitor the interior space of the schools and other District buildings.
2. The Weston Police Department ("WPD") will be granted access to live video coverage of all external video cameras which monitor the areas outside of the school buildings.
3. The WPD will be provided with a code to gain access to the live video on the Internal Cameras which may only be used in the case of an active threat of physical violence within the District. The District will monitor the use of this code to ensure compliance with this section.
4. The District does not authorize the use of the Internal Cameras for criminal investigations or monitoring other than may be related to the monitoring authorized in subsection 3 above. However, the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, in his/her discretion, may authorize the WPD to access the Internal Cameras for use in an active police investigation. Such authorization must be in writing.
5. The District does not authorize the WPD to make recordings of the live video on the External Cameras and Internal Cameras. The WPD and/or other law enforcement agencies may request access to recordings by contacting the Superintendent or his/her designee. Unless access to recordings is required by law, access to such recordings will be at the discretion of the Superintendent or

his/her designee. In the event that a recording constitutes a confidential student record, the recording may only be provided to the WPD, or other law enforcement agency, as permitted by FERPA.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes, 10-221, Boards of Education to prescribe rules

Connecticut General Statutes, Section 31-48d, Employers Engaged in Electronic Monitoring

Titles I – Amendments to the Individuals with Disabilities Act (PL 105-17)

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

Policy References:

Policy and Administrative Regulation 5145.12, Search and Seizure

Policy and Administrative Regulation 5131.2, Video and Audio Recording on School Buses

Regulation approved: _____

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Weston, Connecticut

Students

SCHOOL SWIMMING POOL SAFETY PLAN

The Board of Education establishes these procedures to govern the conduct of any student aquatic activity that takes place in any swimming pool approved for use by the Board of Education for student aquatic activities.

I. Definitions:

- A. **School Swimming Pool:** means any swimming pool approved for use by the Board of Education for student aquatic activities;
- B. **Student Aquatic Activities:** means any physical education class, interscholastic athletics or extracurricular activities offered to students by the Board of Education that makes use of a School Swimming Pool;
- C. **Qualified Swimming Coach:** means any person who (A) holds a valid coaching permit issued by the State Board of Education, and (B) (i) is certified as a lifeguard by the American Red Cross or another nationally-recognized organization that conducts aquatic training programs, (ii) has completed a safety training for swim coaches and instructors course offered by the American Red Cross or an organization approved by the State Board of Education, or (iii) was certified as a lifeguard for at least five years during the previous ten years and has at least five years' experience as a swimming coach or an instructor of a physical education course that makes use of a School Swimming Pool;
- D. **Qualified Educator:** means any person who (A) holds a valid certificate issued by the State Board of Education, pursuant to section 10-145b of the general statutes, with an endorsement in physical education, (B) (i) is certified as a lifeguard by the American Red Cross or another nationally-recognized organization that conducts aquatic training programs, (ii) has completed a safety training for swim coaches and instructors course offered by the American Red Cross or an organization approved by the State Board of Education, or (iii) was certified as a lifeguard for at least five years during the previous ten years and has at least five years' experience as a swimming coach or an instructor of a physical education course that makes use of a School Swimming Pool, (C) is certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, pursuant to section 19a-113a-1 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, as amended from time to time, and (D) has completed a course in first aid offered by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the Department of Public Health or any director of health;
- E. **Qualified Lifeguard:** means any person who (A) is sixteen years of age or older, (B) is certified as a lifeguard by the American Red Cross or another nationally-

recognized organization that conducts aquatic training programs, (C) is certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, pursuant to section 19a-113a-1 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, as amended from time to time, and (D) has completed a course in first aid offered by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the Department of Public Health or any director of health.

II. Mandatory Supervision

- A. In addition to the person responsible for conducting any student aquatic activity that makes use of a School Swimming Pool, there shall be at least one qualified educator, qualified swimming coach, or qualified lifeguard who shall be solely responsible for monitoring such School Swimming Pool during such student aquatic activities for swimmers who may be in distress and providing assistance to such swimmers when necessary.
- B. For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and each school year thereafter, any physical education course that makes use of a School Swimming Pool shall have at least one qualified educator who shall serve as the instructor of such physical education course and be responsible for implementing the provisions of this School Swimming Pool Safety Plan, and at least one qualified educator, qualified swimming coach or qualified lifeguard whose primary responsibility is to monitor the School Swimming Pool for swimmers who may be in distress and provide assistance to such swimmers when necessary.
- C. For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and each school year thereafter, any interscholastic athletic activity that makes use of a School Swimming Pool shall have at least one qualified swimming coach who shall serve as a coach of the participating students and be responsible for implementing the provisions of this School Swimming Pool Safety Plan, and at least one qualified educator, qualified swimming coach or qualified lifeguard whose primary responsibility is to monitor the School Swimming Pool for swimmers who may be in distress and provide assistance to such swimmers when necessary.
- D. For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and each school year thereafter, any extracurricular activity that makes use of a School Swimming Pool shall have at least one qualified lifeguard who will monitor the School Swimming Pool for swimmers who may be in distress and provide assistance to such swimmers when necessary, and be responsible for implementing the provisions of this School Swimming Pool Safety Plan.

III. Plan Review

The School Swimming Pool Safety Plan shall be reviewed and updated as necessary prior to the commencement of each school year.

Legal References:

State Law:

Public Act 13-161, *An Act Concerning Pool Safety at Public Schools*

ADOPTED: _____

REVISED: _____

Second Reading – June 16, 2014

5113.2

Students

Student Attendance and Truancy

Regular and punctual student attendance in school is essential to the educational process. Connecticut state law places responsibility for assuring that students attend school with the parent or other person having control of the child. To assist parents and other persons in meeting this responsibility, the Board of Education, through its Superintendent, will adopt and maintain procedures to implement this policy.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes §10-220, [Duties of boards of education](#)

[Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-221, Boards of education to prescribe rules](#)

Connecticut General Statutes §10-184, [Duties of parents](#)

Connecticut General Statutes §10-186 ~~(as amended by Public Act 09-6)~~, [Duties of boards of education re attendance](#)

Connecticut General Statutes §10-198a, [Policies and procedures concerning truants](#)

Guidelines for Reporting Student Attendance in the Public School Information System (Connecticut State Department of Education, January 2008)

~~Public Act 09-143, An Act Concerning the Reporting of Truancy Data and the Reduction of Duplicative Reports by the Department of Information Technology~~

Connecticut State Department of Education Circular Letter C-2, *Utilizing Local Support Resources Prior to Referral of Students for Family with Service Needs* [\(August 4, 2009\)](#)

[Connecticut State Board of Education Memorandum, Definitions of Excused and Unexcused Absences \(June 27, 2012\)](#)

[Connecticut State Department of Education, Guidelines for Implementation of the Definitions of Excused and Unexcused Absences and Best Practices for Absence Prevention and Intervention \(April 2013\)](#)

Policy References:

[Board of Education Policy 5113, Attendance and Excuses](#)

Policy Adopted: September 3, 1991

Policy Revised:
~~Policy Revised:~~

July 16, 2007
March 15, 2010

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Weston, Connecticut

Students

Administrative Regulations regarding Attendance and Truancy

A. Definitions

1. "Absence" - any day during which a student is not considered "in attendance" at his/her assigned school, or on a school sponsored activity (e.g. field trip), for at least one half of the school day.

2. **"Disciplinary absence" – any absence as a result of school or district disciplinary action. Any student serving an out-of-school suspension or expulsion should be considered absent. Such absence is not considered excused or unexcused.**

3. "Educational evaluation" - for purposes of this policy, an educational evaluation is an assessment of a student's educational development, which, based upon the student's presenting characteristics, would assess (as appropriate) the following areas: health, vision, hearing, social and emotional status, general intelligence, academic performance, communicative status and motor abilities.

3. "Excused absence" – **a student is considered excused from school if the school has received written documentation describing the reason for the absence within ten (10) school days of the student's return to school, or if the child has been excluded from school in accordance with section 10-210 of the Connecticut General Statutes (regarding communicable diseases), and the following criteria are met:**~~an absence from a regularly scheduled school day for at least one half of the school day; which absence, as determined by the building principal or his/her designee, is for:~~

- A. **Any absence before the student's 10th absence is considered excused when the student's parent/guardian approves such absence and submits appropriate documentation in accordance with this regulation.**
- B. **For the student's 10th absence and all absences thereafter, a student's absences from school are considered excused, with appropriate documentation in accordance with this regulation, for the following reasons:**

- a. ~~reasons of health, including illness, incapacity, or doctor's visits. The administration reserves the right to require physician or other appropriate certification for health-related absences.~~ student illness (verified by an appropriately licensed medical professional);
- b. religious holidays.
- c. mandated court appearances (documentation required);
- d. funeral or death in the family, or other emergency beyond control of the student's family;
- e. ~~approved school activities, including field trips.~~ Extraordinary educational opportunities pre-approved by the district administration and in accordance with Connecticut State Department guidance and this regulation;
- f. lack of transportation that is normally provided by a district other than the one the student attends.
- ~~f. suspension or expulsion.~~
- ~~g. in limited circumstances, special activities or emergencies with the consent of the parent or other person having control of the child.~~

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~~Parents or guardians or other persons having control of the child may appeal such decision to the Superintendent or his/her designee, whose decision shall be final.~~

- 4. **"School Day" – the regular school day for all students.**
- 5. "In Attendance" - any day during which a student is not considered to be absent from his/her assigned school, or from an activity sponsored by the school (e.g. field trip), for at least one half of the school day.
- 6. "Student" - a student enrolled in the Weston Public Schools.
- 7. "Truant" - any student **five (5) to eighteen (18)** years of age, inclusive, who has **four (4)** unexcused absences from school in anyone month or **ten (10)** unexcused absences from school in any school year.
- 8. "Unexcused absence" - any absence from a regularly scheduled school day for at

least one half of the school day, which absence is not ~~an~~ excused or considered a disciplinary absence ~~as defined above~~.

The determination of whether an absence is excused will be made by the building principal or his/her designee. Parents, ~~or~~ guardians, or other persons having control of the child may appeal such decision to the Superintendent or his/her designee, whose decision shall be final.

B. Written Documentation Requirements for Absences

1. Written documentation must be submitted for each incidence of absence within ten (10) school days of the student's return to school. An incidence of absence is considered consecutive days of absence.
2. The first nine (9) days of absence will be excused upon receipt of a signed note from the student's parent/guardian, a signed note from a school official that spoke in person with the parent/guardian regarding the absence, or a note confirming the absence by the school nurse or by a licensed medical professional, as appropriate.
3. For the student's 10th absence, and all absences thereafter, documentation of the absence must be submitted in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 above, and must also include the reason for the absence and the following additional information:
 - a. student illness:
 - (1) signed note from a medical professional, who may be the school nurse, who has evaluated the student confirming the absence and giving an expected return date; or
 - (2) signed note from school nurse who has spoken with the student's medical professional and confirmed the absence, including the date and location of the consultation.
 - b. religious holidays: none.
 - c. mandated court appearances:
 - (1) a police summons;
 - (2) a subpoena;
 - (3) a notice to appear;
 - (4) a signed note from a court official; or

- (5) other official, written documentation of the legal requirement to appear in court.
 - d. funeral or death in the family, or other emergency beyond the control of the student's family: written document must explain the nature of the emergency.
 - e. extraordinary educational opportunity pre-approved by the district administrators and in accordance with Connecticut State Department of Education guidance and this policy: written pre-approval from the **administration Superintendent or his/her designee**, in accordance with this regulation.
 - f. lack of transportation that is normally provided by a district other than the one the student attends: none.
- 4. Neither e-mail nor text message shall serve to satisfy the requirement of written documentation. In rare and extraordinary circumstances, a building administrator may, in his/her own discretion, accept the delivery of written documentation through a scanned copy sent by e-mail.
- 5. Weston Public Schools reserves the right to randomly audit written documentation received, through telephone and other methods of communication, to determine its authenticity.
- 6. Any absence that is not documented in accordance with this regulation within ten (10) school days after the incidence of absence will be recorded as unexcused. If documentation is provided within ten (10) school days, but is incomplete, the building principal may, at his/her own discretion, grant up to a five (5) school day extension for provision of the completed documentation.

C. Extraordinary Educational Opportunities

- 1. To qualify as an extraordinary educational opportunity, the opportunity must:
 - a. be educational in nature and must have a learning objective related to the student's course work or plan of study;
 - b. be an opportunity not ordinarily available for this exemption;
 - c. be grade and developmentally appropriate; and
 - d. include content that is highly relevant to the student; while some opportunities will be relevant to all students, others will contain very

specific content that would limit their relevance to a smaller group of students.

2. Family vacations do not qualify as extraordinary educational opportunities.

3. All requests for approval of extraordinary educational opportunities must:

- a. be submitted to the ~~building principal~~ Superintendent or his/her designee in writing prior to the opportunity, but no later than ten (10) school days prior to the opportunity except in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the ~~building administrator~~ Superintendent or his/her designee;
- b. contain the signatures of both the parent/guardian and the student;
- c. include an outline of the learning objective of the opportunity and include detail as to how the objective is linked to the student's coursework or plan of study; and
- d. include additional documentation, where available, about the opportunity.

4. The building principal shall provide a response in writing and include the following:

- a. either approval or denial of the request;
- b. brief reason for any denial;
- c. any requirements placed upon the student as a condition of approval;
- d. the specific days approved as excused absences for the opportunity;
- e. the understanding that the building administrator may withdraw its approval if the opportunity is canceled or the student fails to meet the agreed-upon requirements of the approval.

5. All decisions of the building principal relating to extraordinary educational opportunities shall be final.

6. Students who are granted excusal from school to participate in extraordinary educational opportunities are expected to share their experiences with other students and/or school staff when they return.

7. Approval for an extraordinary educational opportunity is determined on a case-by-case basis and the analysis of individualized factors. An opportunity approved for one student may not be approved for another.

B.D. Truancy Exceptions:

1. A student **five (5) or six (6) years of age** shall not be considered truant if the parents or guardians or other persons having control over such student has appeared personally at the school district office and exercised the option of not sending the child to school at five (5) or six (6) years of age.
2. A student ~~sixteen (16) or~~ **seventeen (17) years of age*** shall not be considered truant if the parents ~~or~~ guardians or other persons having control over such student consents to such student's withdrawal from school. Such parents or guardians or other persons having control over such student shall personally appear at the school district office and sign a withdrawal form indicating such consent. **Such withdrawal form must include an attestation from a guidance counselor or school administrator from the school that the district provided the parent (or person having control of the child) with information on the educational options available in the school system and community.**
3. If a parent~~(s)~~, ~~or~~ guardian~~(s)~~, or other persons having control of an expelled student chooses not to enroll the student in an alternative program, the student shall not be considered to be "truant."

~~[*NOTE: Effective July, 2011, a parent(s)/guardian(s) or other persons of a sixteen-year old student may no longer consent to have his/her child withdraw from school, as the age at which such withdrawal is permitted will be seventeen.]~~

R5113.2(e)

C. Readmission to School Following Voluntary Withdrawal

1. **Except as noted in paragraph 2 below,** if a student voluntarily withdraws from school (in accordance with Section B.2, above) and subsequently seeks readmission, subject to Section C.2. below, the Board may deny school accommodations to the student for up to ninety (90) school days from the date of the student's withdrawal from school.
2. ~~Starting July 1, 2010,~~ If a student who has voluntarily withdrawn from school (in accordance with Section B.2, above) seeks readmission within ten (10) school days of his/her withdrawal, the Board shall provide school accommodations to the student not later than three (3) school days after the student requests readmission.

D. Determinations of Whether a Student is "In Attendance"

1. A student serving an out-of-school suspension or expulsion shall be reported as absent unless he or she receives an alternative educational program for at least one half of the regular school day. In any event, the absence is considered a disciplinary absence, and will not be designated excused or unexcused.
2. On early dismissal days and days shortened due to inclement weather, the regular school day for attendance purposes is considered to be the amount of instructional time offered to students on that day. For example, if school is open for four hours on a shortened day scheduled, a student must be present for a minimum of two hours in order to be considered "in attendance."
3. Students placed on homebound instruction due to illness or injury in accordance with applicable regulations and requirements are counted as being "in attendance" for every day that they receive instruction from an appropriately certified teacher for an amount of time deemed adequate by the administration so as to ensure that the student is able to successfully return to the regular classroom setting.

E. Procedures for students in grades K-8*

1. Notification

- a. Annually at the beginning of the school year and upon the enrollment of any child during the school year, the administration shall notify the parents, ~~or~~ guardians, or other persons having control of the student enrolled in grades K - 8 in writing of the obligations pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-184 to assure that such a student attends school regularly or to show that the child is elsewhere receiving equivalent instruction in the studies taught in the Weston Public Schools.

R5113.2(d)

- b. Annually at the beginning of the school year and upon the enrollment of any child during the school year, the administration shall obtain from the parents, ~~or~~ guardians, or other persons having control of the student in grades K-8 a telephone number or other means of contacting such parents or guardians or other persons having control of the student during the school day.

2. Monitoring

Each school shall implement a system of monitoring individual unexcused absences of students in grades K-8. Whenever such a student fails to report to school on a regularly scheduled school day, school personnel under the direction of the building principal [or his/her designee] shall make a reasonable effort to

notify the parents~~s~~, ~~or~~ guardians~~s~~, or other persons having control of such student by telephone and by mail of the student's absence, unless school personnel have received an indication that the parents~~s~~, ~~or~~ guardians~~s~~, or other persons having control of such student is aware of the student's absence. [Reasonable efforts shall include two (2) attempts to reach the parents~~s~~, ~~or~~ guardians~~s~~, or other persons~~s~~. Such attempts shall be recorded on a form provided by the Superintendent.] **Mailed notice of the student's absence shall include a warning that two (2) unexcused absences from school in a month or five (5) unexcused absences in a school year may result in a complaint filed with the Superior Court pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. section 46b-149 alleging the belief that the acts or omissions of the child are such that the child's family is a family with service needs.** Any person who, in good faith, gives or fails to give such notice shall be immune from liability, civil or criminal, which might otherwise be incurred or imposed and shall have the same immunity with respect to any judicial proceeding which results from such notice or failure to give notice.

[*Note: State law mandates notification and monitoring only with regard to students in grades K-8. Boards of Education are free, however, to extend the application of monitoring and intervention procedures to students at all grade levels.]

F. Procedures applicable to students ages five (5) to eighteen (18)

1. Intervention

- a. When a student is truant, the building principal or his/her designee shall schedule a meeting with the parents~~s~~, ~~or~~ guardians~~s~~, or other persons~~s~~ having control of such student and appropriate school personnel to review and evaluate the reasons for the student's truancy. This meeting shall be held no later than **ten (10) days** after the student becomes truant. The district shall document the meeting, and if the parents~~s~~, ~~or~~ guardians~~s~~, or other persons~~s~~-having control of the student declines~~s~~ to attend the meeting, or are~~is~~ otherwise nonresponsive, that fact shall also be documented and the meeting shall proceed with school personnel in attendance.

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- b. When a student is truant, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall coordinate services with and referrals of students to community agencies providing child and family services, as appropriate. The district shall document efforts to contact and include families and to provide early intervention in truancy matters.
- c. If the parents~~s~~, ~~or~~ guardians~~s~~, or other persons~~s~~-having control of the student who is truant fails to attend the meeting held pursuant to subsection a.~~;~~ above, or otherwise fails to cooperate with the school in attempting to

solve the truancy problem, the Superintendent shall file, within fifteen (15) calendar days of such failure to attend the meeting or failure to cooperate with the school in attempting to solve the truancy problem, for such truant a written complaint with the Superior Court pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 46b - 149 alleging the belief that the acts or omissions of the truant are such that his/her family is a family with service needs.

- d. In addition to the procedures specified in subsections a through c above, a regular education student who is experiencing attendance problems should be referred to the building Child Study Team [or other appropriate school based team] to consider the need for additional interventions and/or assistance. The Team will also consider whether the student should be referred to a planning and placement team ("PPT") meeting to review the student's need and eligibility for special education. A special education student who is experiencing attendance problems should be referred to a PPT meeting for program review.
- e. If a FWSN (Family with Service Needs) petition is filed and the court orders an educational evaluation of the student, the district shall conduct an appropriate educational evaluation if no such evaluation has been performed within the preceding year.
 - i) For a regular education student, the educational evaluation will be conducted or arranged for by appropriate school personnel and coordinated through the Child Study Team [or other appropriate school based team]. Upon completion of the evaluation of a regular education student, the Child Study Team [or other appropriate school based team] shall review the evaluations and make appropriate recommendations for alternative procedures, programs or interventions. Such recommendations may include a referral of the student for further evaluation and/or consideration for special education eligibility.

~~RS113.2(t)~~

- ii) In the case of a student who requires or may require special education and related services, the district shall convene a PPT to determine what evaluations may be appropriate to assess any specific areas of concern. The PPT shall reconvene to review the evaluations and make appropriate recommendations regarding the student's need for special education services and the need, if any, to write or revise the student's individualized education program ("IEP").

I. Reports to the State Regarding Truancy Data:

Annually, each local and regional board of education shall include information regarding truancy in the strategic school profile report for each school under its jurisdiction and for the school district as a whole submitted to the Commissioner of Education. Measures of truancy include the type of data that is required to be collected by the Department of Education regarding attendance and unexcused absences in order for the department to comply with federal reporting requirements and the actions taken by the board of education to reduce truancy in the school district.

Legal References:

Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-220, Duties of boards of education

Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-221, Boards of education to prescribe rules

Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-184, Duties of parents

Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-186, Duties of boards of education re attendance

Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-198a, Policies and procedures concerning truants

Guidelines for Reporting Student Attendance in the Public School Information System (Connecticut State Department of Education, January 2008)

Connecticut State Department of Education Circular Letter C-2, Utilizing Local Support Resources Prior to Referral of Students for Family with Service Needs (August 4, 2009)

Connecticut State Board of Education Memorandum, Definitions of Excused and Unexcused Absences (June 27, 2012)

Connecticut State Department of Education, Guidelines for Implementation of the Definitions of Excused and Unexcused Absences and Best Practices for Absence Prevention and Intervention (April 2013)

Policy References:

Board of Education Policy 5113, Attendance and Excuses

Regulation Adopted: September 3, 1991

Regulation Revised: July 16, 2007

~~Regulation Revised:~~ March 1, 2010

Second Reading – June 16, 2014

R 5113(a)

Students

Attendance and Excuses

Absences

This regulation, and Board of Education Policy 5113, set forth Weston Public Schools' expectations and requirements with regard to absences and tardiness of students. The provisions of Board of Education Policy and Administrative Regulation 5113.2, Student Attendance and Truancy, govern the Board of Education's compliance with the provisions of state law concerning truancy.

If absence from school is to be considered excused, a principal or teacher may require a satisfactory explanation from the parent or guardian of a student, by telephone, in person, or by written note. The administration will determine where absences are excused or unexcused.

Legislation mandates school attendance, so it is up to the school to decide what will or will not constitute an excused absence. The school administration makes final determination of excused absences.

Class time and learning experiences lost for whatever reason have a direct and negative effect on the student's education.

Excused Absences*

1. Illness or injury of the student.
2. Funeral or death in the ~~immediate~~ family or other emergency beyond the control of the student's family.
3. Serious illness of a member of the family which necessitates the absence of the student.
4. Medical appointment that cannot be scheduled outside of regular school hours.
5. College interviews or visits (not permitted during midterm or final examination days).
6. Religious ~~obligation~~ holiday.
7. Mandatory court appearance.
8. ~~An emergency as determined by the principal.~~—Such other absences which have had prior approval of the principal. Students who plan to be absent for reasons other than those listed above, should seek approval by presenting a note from home to the principal who will then indicate approval or disapproval. ~~The responsibility for the make-up of work lies with the student, not the teacher.~~
9. Lack of transportation that is normally provided by a district other than Weston Public Schools.
10. Extraordinary educational opportunities pre-approved by the district administration and in accordance with Connecticut State Department guidance, Board policies, and administrative regulations
11. Such other exceptional circumstances as approved by the principal.

Students that are absent from class for a non-school related reason may not be present in the school building during that period. The responsibility for the make-up of work lies with the student, not the teacher.

* An excused absence for the purpose of this regulation may be different than an excused absence for the purpose of determining whether a student is truant under state law. Please see Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 5113.2, Student Attendance and Truancy.

School Required Absences

With prior notification, absences required by the school, such as curricular field trips, interscholastic contests, and suspension will be acceptable for excused absences and are excluded from consideration in the enforcement of the attendance policy.

Unverified Absences

When students are absent and no reason was reported by a parent or guardian, the absence will be considered unverified. Any absence that remains unverified on the ~~second~~ eleventh school day after the student's return to school ~~absence~~ ("Verification Period") will be recorded as an unexcused absence. After the Verification Period, no changes will be made to the status of the absence.

Make-Up Work

All make-up work will be completed within twice the number of school days of absence when the student returns to school. A building administrator may authorize an amended make-up deadline. Whether or not students are given an opportunity to make up work missed as a result of an unexcused absence, or to receive credit for work missed as a result of an unexcused absence, will be at the discretion of the principal or his/her designee in consultation with the teacher(s) and school counselor. It is the student's responsibility to complete all make-up work.

Student Attendance Responsibility

The student has the responsibility to have his/her parent or guardian call the school on the morning of a legitimate absence or submit a parental excuse note to the attendance office.

A student should report to the health office if he/she becomes ill during the school day. Students are not allowed to leave campus without permission of the school nurse or school administrator. If a student leaves without the authorization of the nurse or school administrator, the absence will be considered unexcused, and the student will face disciplinary consequences as determined by the school administration.

Proper parental notification must be provided to the school if there is a need to be dismissed early.

~~It is the student's responsibility to complete all make-up work.~~

Parents

Parents or guardians are responsible for calling the attendance office in the morning to report absence or tardiness, and reason for the absence or tardiness. If no call has been received and a student is absent, the school will call home. Appointments for medical, dental, etc. should be scheduled after school hours. Prior notification of student's absence should be submitted whenever possible. (See also Unverified Absences above).

Teachers' Responsibility

Teachers are to maintain accurate daily attendance records and report cumulative absences.

It is the administration's responsibility to follow through on all unexcused absences and determine and exercise appropriate consequences for those unexcused absences.

It is the responsibility of the administration to ensure that teachers accurately record student attendance in the student information system so that parents or guardians have access to their child's attendance records in a timely manner.

Consequences for Unexcused Absences at the High School

- I. For the first unexcused absence in a school year, an administrator will communicate a warning to the student.
- II. For the second and third unexcused absences in a school year, the student will be assigned a detention and the student's parents or guardians will be notified.
- III. For the fourth unexcused absence in a school year, and for subsequent absences, students will be subject to more severe disciplinary consequences as determined by the school administration. Consequences may include suspension from school. The student may also be subject to other disciplinary measures including, but not limited to, loss of privileges (open campus, parking, etc.) and removal from co-curricular activities. Students will be referred to the student assistance team and a parent conference(s) may be scheduled.
- IV. In severe circumstances, repeated unexcused absences in any single course may result in the student being withdrawn from the course(s) with a failing grade. For the purposes of I, II, and III above, an unexcused absence shall be defined as an absence during a single class period. Students who have multiple unexcused absences on a single day will receive consequences as stated in II and III above as appropriate. Each class absence will be treated as a new occurrence.
- V. The decision of the principal regarding discipline imposed under the Policy and Administrative Regulations is final.

Consequences for Unexcused Absences at the Middle School and Elementary Schools

- I. Consequences will be determined by the school building administrators in their discretion and as permitted by law.

- II. The decision of a principal regarding discipline imposed under the Policy and Administrative Regulations is final.

Tardiness to Class

Continued tardiness on the part of any student will be viewed as a very serious matter. Promptness to class is extremely important. Students are expected to be in their place, ready for work, at the bell.

Tardiness at the High School

- I. For each accumulation of three [\(3\)](#) tardies in the same class, the teacher will assign the student a one-hour detention. Teachers may also enforce their own classroom tardy policy in addition to this consequence.
- II. Students arriving more than ten (10) minutes after a class begins will be marked absent for that period. The absence will be unexcused [for the purposes of this regulation](#) unless the student was tardy due to one of the reasons for an “excused absence” as defined herein.
- III. Students who accumulate more than six (6) tardies may be referred to an administrator who will determine the appropriate disciplinary consequences. Consequences may include, but not be limited to, loss of privileges (parking, open campus, etc.) and extended detention.
- IV. The decision of a principal regarding discipline imposed under the Policy and Administrative Regulations is final.
- V. If the school is responsible for a student’s lateness (i.e. the school bus is late), tardiness will be automatically excused.

Tardiness at Middle School, Intermediate School, and Elementary School

- I. Consequences for repeated tardiness will be determined by the school building administrators in their discretion and as permitted by law.
- II. The decision of a principal regarding discipline imposed under the Policy and Administrative Regulations is final.
- III. If the school is responsible for a student’s lateness (i.e. the school bus is late), tardiness will be automatically excused.

Requests for Early Dismissal

Permission must be granted by the principal or designee according to each individual case, provided a request is made by the parent or guardian with whom the student is living. A student

may be dismissed from school early for any of the reasons stated under the “Excused Absence” section of this regulation.

In case of illness or other personal emergency necessitating dismissal of a student, the principal or designee shall notify the parent or guardian before dismissing the student. ~~Parents or guardians are responsible for their children when dismissal is at parent or guardian’s request for any reason.~~

No student shall be sent from school grounds during the school day without the approval of the principal or designee.

Absences and Participation in Co-Curricular Activities

Except as specifically permitted by the principal, any student who is absent from school, is not in school for at least three (3) hours, and/or who has failed to attend at least three full classes (in the case of the high school and middle school) will not be permitted that day to participate in or attend an extracurricular activity (e.g. practice, athletic event, rehearsal, meeting or performance). If a student’s absence for a day, or for a portion of the day, is unexcused, the student may not participate in any school related, athletic, and co-curricular activities until after one (1) full day of regular attendance and after the student has served any assigned consequence. Students who are serving a suspension may not participate in or attend school related, athletic, and co-curricular activities; either on or off school grounds.

Extended Absences - Vacations

Family vacations should be scheduled to coincide with school vacations. The administration will work with families. However, the administration cannot guarantee that make-up work for extended absences will be provided prior to the absence. While the student and parent or guardian are required to notify the school of an extended absence from classes at least one week prior to the absence, the school reserves the right to deny the request that these absences be considered “excused” for the purposes of this regulation. School cancellation days (i.e. snow days) may extend the date for the last day of school or shorten planned student breaks.

Extended absences are regarded by the school as a very serious matter because such absences necessarily result in a loss to a student’s instructional program. There is no way to compensate for what is missed in a class discussion or the interaction within a group. Activities such as science labs, class discussions, and speakers cannot be duplicated. Assignments related to these activities may result in lower and possibly failing grades.

Legal References: ~~Connecticut General Statutes~~

[Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-184, Duties of parents](#)

[Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-186, Duties of boards of education re attendance](#)

[Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-198a, Policies and procedures re truants](#)

[Conn. Gen. Stat. 10-202e, Policy on dropout prevention](#)

[Conn. Gen. Stat. 10-220, Duties of boards of education](#)

Conn. Gen. Stat. 10-221, Board of Education to prescribe rules

Connecticut State Board of Education Memorandum, *Definitions of Excused and Unexcused Absences* (June 27, 2012)

Connecticut State Department of Education, *Guidelines for Implementation of the Definitions of Excused and Unexcused Absences and Best Practices for Absence Prevention and Intervention* (April 2013)

Policy References:

Policy 5131.2, Attendance and Truancy

Regulation approved: October 1, 1990
Regulation revised: November 21, 2011

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Weston, Connecticut

Second Reading – June 16, 2014

5113~~(a)~~

Students

Attendance and Excuses

This policy, and the accompanying administrative regulation, set forth Weston Public Schools' expectations and requirements with regard to absences and tardiness of students. The provisions of Board of Education Policy and Administrative Regulation 5113.2, Student Attendance and Truancy, govern the Board of Education's compliance with the provisions of state law concerning truancy.

Connecticut State Law requires parents to cause their children to attend school regularly during the hours and terms the public school is in session. The Board of Education recognizes that learning in the classroom is an integral and essential part of a student's total learning process. Learning experiences that occur in the classroom are considered to be meaningful and essential components of the learning process. Time lost from class tends to be irretrievable in terms of opportunity for instructional interaction, such as:

1. The teacher explains, interprets and adds to the information given in textbooks and other sources.
2. Certain classroom activities such as discussions, media presentations, and speakers, can never be made up.
3. The student has a responsibility to participate in the class learning process and to contribute on the basis of his/her questions and comments.
4. Learning to function and interact as a responsible member in a group situation is a vital part of the student's educational experience.

Therefore, a student's enrollment in a course is his/her commitment to attend all class periods. No student shall be absent from or tardy to class without an acceptable reason. The Board of Education requires that accurate records be kept of the attendance of each child. A student should not be absent from school without the parent's knowledge and consent. Verification of absences should be made by the parent or guardian.

Board policy with respect to unexcused absences stresses prevention and inquiry leading to remediation of absences rather than imposition of punitive measures. Only when all local resources are exhausted is referral to legal authorities recommended. Excessive and unauthorized absences and tardiness shall incur appropriate administrative action including but not limited to loss of credit. **Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board will comply with the requirements of state law concerning the reporting of truancy (See Board of Education Policy and Administrative Regulations 5113.2).**

An absence shall be considered “excused” when a child does not attend school due to illness or injury, death in the ~~immediate~~ family, religious ~~obligation~~ holiday, an emergency beyond the control of the student’s family, or other circumstances described in the Administrative Regulations. ~~Verification for such absences should be made to school officials by the child’s parent or guardian.~~ School officials may request parents to verify health-related absences via an ~~physician~~ appropriately licensed medical professional’s note when the duration or frequency of absence, or the severity of the illness, has education or safety implications for the school community. School officials may also request verification of a claimed health-related absence via an ~~physician~~ appropriately licensed medical professional’s note when the school officials have reason to believe that the student’s absence is due to reasons other than as stated in this paragraph. An ~~physician~~ appropriately licensed medical professional’s note provided pursuant to this paragraph must state that the student is required to be absent from school for either the entire day or for a portion of the day. All other absences shall be considered unexcused.

Request for Release of Student During ~~the~~ School Day

Request for release of a student during the school day originating outside the schools must be handled by the administration to ensure maximum provisions for the safety and welfare of the student.

Early dismissal should be requested only in emergency or unusual situations.

Legal References: ~~Connecticut General Statutes~~

[Conn. Gen. Stat. 10-220, Duties of boards of education](#)

[Conn. Gen. Stat. 10-221\(b\)](#), Boards of ~~e~~Education to prescribe rules

[Conn. Gen. Stat., 10-184](#), Duties of parents

Campbell v New Milford, 193 Conn 93 (1984)

[Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-186, Duties of boards of education re attendance](#)

[Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-198a, Policies and procedures concerning truants](#)

[Connecticut State Board of Education Memorandum, Definitions of Excused and Unexcused Absences \(June 27, 2012\)](#)

[Connecticut State Department of Education, Guidelines for Implementation of the Definitions of Excused and Unexcused Absences and Best Practices for Absence Prevention and Intervention \(April 2013\)](#)

[Policy References:](#)

Board of Education Policy 5131.2, Attendance and truancy

Policy adopted: October 1, 1990
Policy revised: March 21, 1995
~~Policy revised:~~ November 21, 2011

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Weston, Connecticut

Community/Board Operation

Possession of Deadly Weapons or Firearms

I. Definitions:

- A. **Deadly Weapon** means "any weapon, whether loaded or unloaded, from which a shot may be discharged, or a switchblade knife, gravity knife, billy, blackjack, bludgeon, or metal knuckles." Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-3 (6). Pellet guns, BB guns, and airsoft guns are considered "firearms" for the purposes of this policy.
- B. **Firearm** means "any sawed-off shotgun, machine gun, rifle, shotgun, pistol, revolver, or other weapon, whether loaded or unloaded, from which a shot may be discharged." Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-3 (19). Pellet guns, BB guns, and airsoft guns are considered "firearms" for the purposes of this policy.
- C. **Peace Officer** means "a member of the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or an organized local police department, a chief inspector or inspector in the Division of Criminal Justice, a state marshal while exercising authority granted under any provision of the general statutes, a judicial marshal in the performance of the duties of a judicial marshal, a conservation officer or special conservation officer, as defined in section 26-5, a constable who performs criminal law enforcement duties, a special policeman appointed under section 29-18, 29-18a or 29-19, an adult probation officer, an official of the Department of Correction authorized by the Commissioner of Correction to make arrests in a correctional institution or facility, any investigator in the investigations unit of the office of the State Treasurer, any special agent of the federal government authorized to enforce the provisions of Title 21 of the United States Code, or a member of a law enforcement unit of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe or the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut created and governed by a memorandum of agreement under section 2 of public act 13-170 who is certified as a police officer by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council pursuant to sections 7-294a to 7-294e, inclusive." Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-3 (9).
- D. **Real Property** means the land and all temporary and permanent structures comprising the district's elementary and secondary schools, administrative office buildings, maintenance buildings, and other buildings. Real Property includes, but is not limited to, the following: classrooms, offices, hallways, storage facilities, theaters, gymnasiums, other athletic facilities, cafeterias, common areas, fields, parking lots, access roads under control of the district, and wooded areas.

- E. **School-Sponsored Activity** "means any activity sponsored, recognized or authorized by a Board of Education and includes activities conducted on or off school property." Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-233a(h).

II. Prohibition of Deadly Weapons and Firearms

In accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. § 29-28(e) and § 53a-217b, the possession and/or use of a deadly weapon or firearm on the Real Property of the district or at a school-sponsored activity, is prohibited, even if the person possessing the deadly weapon or firearm has a permit for such item.

III. Peace Officer Exception

A peace officer engaged in the performance of his or her official duties who is in lawful possession of a deadly weapon or firearm may bring such item onto the Real Property of the district, or to a school-sponsored activity.

IV. Other Exceptions

Persons in lawful possession of a deadly weapon or firearm may possess such item on the Real Property of the district, or to a school-sponsored activity if:

- A. The person brings the deadly weapon or firearm on the Real Property of the district, or to a school-sponsored activity, for use in a program approved by school officials. In such case, the person must give school officials notice of his/her intention to bring such item, and the person must receive prior written permission from school officials.
- B. The person possesses the deadly weapon or firearm on the Real Property of the district, or at a school-sponsored activity, pursuant to a written agreement with school officials or a written agreement between such person's employer and school officials.
- C. An armed security officer employed by the Board of Education to provide security services pursuant to Public Act 13-188 engaged in the performance of his or her official duties who is in lawful possession of a deadly weapon or firearm may bring and possess such item on the Real Property of the District and to a school-sponsored activity. No person providing security services may be armed without the approval of the Board of Education.

V. Consequences

- A. Unless subject to one of the exceptions listed above, any person who possesses a deadly weapon or firearm on the Real Property of the district and/or at a school-sponsored activity, whether or not the person is lawfully permitted to carry such

deadly weapon or firearm, will be reported to the local police authorities once school officials become aware of its possession.

- B. A student who possesses and/or uses any deadly weapon or firearm on the Real Property of the District or to a school sponsored activity in violation of this policy shall be disciplined in accordance with Board of Education Student Discipline Policy.
- C. The Board of Education reserves the right to forbid anyone caught possessing a deadly weapon or firearm on the Real Property of the district, or at a school-sponsored activity, from entering district property, using any and all school facilities, and/or attending school sponsored events.

Legal References:

Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-233a, et. seq., Suspension and Expulsion of Pupils
Conn. Gen. Stat. §29-28(e), Permit to Carry Pistol or Revolver
Conn. Gen. Stat. §53a-3, Penal Code, Definitions
Conn. Gen. Stat. §53a-217b, Possession of a Weapon on School Grounds
Public Act 13-188.

Policy References:

Policy 5114, Student Discipline

ADOPTED _____

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Weston, Connecticut

Weston Public Schools

July 4	Independence Day
August 19-21	Teacher Professional Development
August 24	First Day of School
September 7	Labor Day
September 14	Rosh Hashanah
September 23	Yom Kippur
October 12	Columbus Day
November 3	Election Day/Teacher Professional Development
November 11	Veterans Day
November 26-27	Thanksgiving Recess
December 24-January 1	Winter Recess
January 1	New Year's Day
January 18	Martin Luther King Day
February 15	Presidents' Day
February 15-19	February Recess
March 9	Teacher Professional Development
March 25	Good Friday
April 11-15	Spring Recess
April 23	Passover
May 30	Memorial Day
June 10	District's Projected Last Day of School

JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4										1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
							30	31												

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OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sat	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3	4	5
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29						27	28	29	30	31		
31																				

APRIL							MAY							JUNE						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		

First Day of School

Projected last Day of School

Teacher Day — No Students

No Students or Teachers, BOE Offices Open

No Students or Teachers, BOE Offices Closed

Early Dismissal — See Legend at Left

Delayed Opening — See Legend at Left

180 School Days 187 Teacher Days

Approved by the Board of Education on:

The Weston Board of Education reserves the right to modify the school calendar.

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS REPORT

June 16, 2014



Weston High School

Lisa Deorio, Principal

In this issue...

Principal's Update
Academic Programs
Professional Development
Co-Curricular Program

Principal's Update

June marks the end of our school year with graduation on June 17 beginning promptly at 6:00 p.m. We are so very proud of our 171 graduates. I would like to take this opportunity to thank three staff members who will retire at the end of June. Special Education paraprofessional Meg Prezanno has worked tirelessly to provide direction and support for our students. Social Studies teacher Jean Bennett has been instrumental in the growth and development of our "AP US History" course as well as "History and Ourselves." Band Director Sal LaRusso has given the gift of music to countless students over his tenure at the school. They will be greatly missed by students, colleagues, and the community. This summer our school has a major construction project. We will be renovating classrooms in the center core of our building.

Academic Programs

Art

The community class in conjunction with the Art with a Heart Club will be displaying their art work at Unified Arts Exhibit at Southern CT State University this month.

Music

The WHS Orchestras spent time sharing music with the beginning fifth-grade string players this month. Students shared stories about playing a stringed instrument at the high school, and how it helps them through their busy high school day.

Science

An aviculturist from the Livingston Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy brought birds to biology classes to showcase duck diversity and evolution. The project will highlight physical and behavioral similarities from different species of ducks that exist around the world.

Videography

Videography students James Willis and Liam Keith placed third in the second annual Student Voices Video Contest sponsored by the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS) and The Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS). The Challenge was to develop creative and compelling videos that articulate a vision for improving education.

Professional Development

Congratulations to physics teachers Ms. Balouskus and Dr. Kingston who received the David Trigaux Award from the Weston Education Foundation this month. They were honored for their work with the Interlace Project, which is a partnership with Tufts University. Dr. Kingston will attend a conference this summer in Portland, Oregon in the use of a variety of research-based active learning strategies.

This summer social studies Teachers Mr. Jorge and Mr. Holderbach, english teacher Mr. Horton, and Latin teacher Ms. Telford will all be participating in Advanced Placement training at the Taft School's College Board Workshops. These teachers will attend workshops in "AP US History," "AP Economics," "AP Language," and "AP Latin" in preparation for the fall.

In addition, Mr. Brencher will attend the introductory and advanced After Effects training courses at the American Graphics Institute. He will learn to use this comprehensive software tool to efficiently produce motion graphics and visual effects for film, video, multimedia, and the Web. Ms. Klein will attend the "Facing History and Ourselves" workshop in New York City as she takes over this course from retiring teacher Ms. Bennett.

Social studies will conduct a curriculum renewal this summer. There will be workshops in inquiry-based learning and various teachers will be attending training at the State level for the new C3 framework for social studies.

Co-Curricular Program

The Garden Club is looking for families interested in adopting our community garden for a week during the summer. No experience is necessary and directions will be provided. Tasks involved will be weeding and harvesting (and eating) our organic produce. If interested, please contact Jennifer Klein at jenniferklein@westonps.org.

Weston Middle School

Amy Watkins, Principal

In this issue...

Final PBIS/S.O.A.R. Breakfast
WMS PTO Supports Drama Residency for the Seventh Grade
Alfred Uhry Visits Seventh-Grade Students
Mr. MacDonald's Students Simulate a Roman Senate
Weston Warrior Day
Thank You to the WMS PTO
Summer Reading Challenge
Student Art Showcase
Weston PD Presents to All Students on Social Media Awareness
Ms. Cooperman's Students Create Informational Websites
Sludge Project in Science
Eighth-Grade Moving-Up Ceremony
We Almost Met Our Goal for A Long Walk to Water
School Store to Reopen in the Fall
CAS Scholar Leaders Named

Final PBIS/S.O.A.R. Breakfast

The PBIS team hosted our final S.O.A.R. Pancake Breakfast Friday, June 6, in the Family and Consumer Science room. Fifty students were invited to attend. We randomly drew their names from our S.O.A.R. bucket in the Main Office. Cooking began around 6:40 a.m. with students joining us from 7:15 a.m. until 7:40 a.m. WMS chefs joined us in making the pancakes. As a special treat for this end of the year celebration, DJ Bucko was spinning tunes from his “Pancake Mix” to help us S.O.A.R. even higher. It is always a great morning for our students.



Congratulations to the winners for the SOAR monthly raffle winners for month of May: Natalie Schreder (6), Olivia Wen (6), Liam Hourihan (6), Patrick Betsworth (7), and Elizabeth Kleiner (7).

WMS PTO Supports Drama Residency for the Seventh Grade



The seventh-grade English students have been working with drama expert in residence, Frank Ingrasciotta. Students read and studied the classic play *Twelve Angry Men* by Reginald Rose. Attorney David Stewart came and presented background information to students on courtroom proceedings and the roles and responsibilities of members of a jury. Students have been working closely with Mr. Ingrasciotta on a variety of drama exercises and performing scenes from the play.

Alfred Uhry Visits Seventh-Grade Students

The seventh grade has been completing a drama unit and Jane Burdett’s grandfather offered to come and speak to our seventh-grade students about his work as a playwright. Mr. Uhry is best known as the writer of *Driving Miss Daisy* for which he won the Pulitzer Prize. Mr. Uhry is the only American to have won an Oscar, a Tony, and the Pulitzer Prize. He is a literary legend. He also taught middle and high school theatre for many years.



For more information about Mr. Uhry and his work, please read the autobiography offered at the following link:

<http://www.georgiawritershalloffame.org/honorees/biography.php?authorID=50>

Mr. MacDonald’s Students Simulate a Roman Senate

Students participated in a simulated Roman Senate, where they were divided randomly into patricians (upper class) and plebeians (lower class). Students were then asked to elect Senators and Tribunes to represent their views in the Senate. They also elected two Consuls whose responsibility was to approve or veto a proposed law. After considering a controversial question (for example, defense of the Republic, land redistribution, or infrastructure), students huddled with their representative(s) and shared their views. The Senators and Tribunes then spoke on the Senate floor, explaining their



proposal and rationale to the Consuls. Representatives had to develop a compromise if views were drastically different. Finally, the Consuls either vetoed the proposal or wrote it into law. Excellent demonstrations of critical thinking, problem solving, and collaboration.

Weston Warrior Day a HUGE Success

The second annual Weston Warrior Day was an amazing day for our school community. Students and staff alike dressed in their team colors and demonstrated their school pride. Several brave students competed in the Ultimate Warrior Challenge where they swam six laps, followed by a half-mile run. Congratulations to Sierra Daly and Griffin Levi for winning this year's Ultimate Warrior Challenge.



Students then regrouped and participated in a school-wide pep rally demonstrating their team spirit. The morning activities included a poetry slam, golf challenge, iron chef event, and art challenge. After a picnic lunch, grade levels competed in a staff and student volleyball game and a tug of peace. While the action of the day was exhilarating, the students truly enjoyed celebrating the talents of one another in the Student Showcase at the end of the day. Thank you to the parent volunteers for all of their assistance and the teachers for their help organizing the various events.

WMS Summer Reading Challenge

Summer break is almost here. It is our sincere hope that in addition to trips, adventures, reconnecting with family and friends, and time to relax, you will find time to do a lot of reading.

Summer reading is crucial for middle school students. In addition to fostering a lifelong love of reading, it helps support the gains in reading strategies and comprehension students have made throughout the year.

We recommend that students:

1. Read a minimum of three books of their choosing during the course of summer break to maintain a reading life;
2. Track their summer reading using this [Journal](#);
3. Read for at least 30 minutes daily;
4. Visit the Weston Public Library for programs and reading support; and
5. Work with you to find books suitable to their interests, reading level, and/or content.

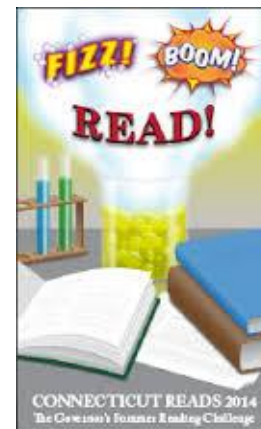
This summer, Weston Middle School will participate in the CT Governor's Reading Challenge. We ask that every student entering Grade 6 through 8 keep track of their summer reading using the journal located at the following link:

https://docs.google.com/a/westonps.org/forms/d/1MGZXhMuo1QDer5v05_d-lfmwqbqOi0N3cgDWFjTLbW8/viewform. Students will be asked to submit journals digitally on

August 29. As an incentive, the team with the highest combined total of pages read will earn a pizza party in the early fall.

Great Reading Lists:

- [CT Librarian's List 2013](#)
- [Newbery Award Winners](#)
- [Top 10 for Teens 2014](#)
- [Alex Award Winners](#)
- [Nutmeg Nominees Intermediate \(Grades 4 - 6\)](#)
- [Nutmeg Nominees Teen \(Grades 7 - 8\)](#)
- [Nutmeg Nominees High School \(Grades 9 - 12\)](#)
- [CT Governor's Recommended List for Grades 5 - 6](#)
- [CT Governor's Recommended List for Grades 7 - 8](#)



Thank You to the WMS PTO

The first phase of courtyard planting is done. The following were planted and will bloom when students are here in the fall and spring: three red-leaved dogwoods, two roses, three Lenten roses, two lilacs, two azaleas, and one weigelia.

Through the assistance of local resident and landscaper Bonnie Troy from Moonbeam Gardens, the above were planted and watered. Students with the Student Government Association helped mulch.

WMS Art Showcase

We are very proud of the wonderful student artwork featured in the 2014 Weston Middle School Art Show. Including works by students in grades 6, 7, and 8, the exhibition has served to showcase the diverse and in-depth learning that students have acquired in art class. Classes covered one-point perspective, surrealism, digital photography, drawing illusions of form, mixed media sculpture, illustrated story introductions, painting, and various graphic design investigations. The curriculum is focused primarily on building thinking skills to facilitate the creative process, and the idea that these creative-thinking skills can be learned by anyone. All units begin with art history and then aim to teach students to develop their own original ideas and means of expression. Combining historical context with analysis of idea-development and studio processes allowed students to create their own informed and meaningful works of art.

Eighth-Grade Sludge Project

Students are using their knowledge of the properties of matter to identify the mystery substances they have been provided with. Students develop their own hypothesis and tests to eliminate possibilities. Critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and communication are all necessary skills in order to be successful with this task.



Weston PD Presents to All Grades on Social Media Awareness

The Weston Police Department spent time with each grade reviewing social media and the potential pitfalls. Students had the opportunity to ask questions and hear from Officer McGollon how to avoid getting into these situations. We appreciate Officer McGollon making the time in his schedule to work with each grade separately to ensure a personalized learning experience for our students.

Ms. Cooperman's Students Create Informational Websites about Authors

A culminating project in the author study unit was the production of websites that students created. Websites were designed to be informative sources about the authors they studied. Authors were advised of the projects and feedback from the authors was positive.

Eighth-Grade Moving-Up Ceremony

The date for the Eighth-Grade Moving-Up Ceremony is Monday, June 16, 2014, at 5:00 p.m. under the tent on the lawn between the intermediate school and high school. We ask that all eighth-grade students report to the high school gymnasium in proper attire by 4:00 p.m. The ceremony lasts for approximately one hour. In the event of severe weather conditions, the ceremony will be moved to the high school gymnasium. If a change is necessary, you will receive a notification to that effect.

As you prepare for the Moving-Up Ceremony, please keep in mind the following dress guidelines for our young men and women. The attire for young men includes jackets, dress shirts, ties, and slacks. Sneakers, jeans, cargo pants, and shorts are not permitted for the ceremony. The attire for young women includes dresses, skirts, or dress pants. Please note that a wrap or small jacket cover-up must be worn with any strapless, spaghetti-strap, halter top, or tube top outfit during the ceremony.

We Almost Met Our Goal for *A Long Walk to Water*

As you know, our school has been participating in a One School, One Book (OSOB) initiative this year using the book *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park. Part of our experience is a celebration of the concept that together, we *can* make a difference. For those who did not contribute, there is still time. We will continue to accept donations through Friday, June 13. You can make your donations directly to this website: <http://bit.ly/OzwYWU>



School Store to Reopen in the Fall

Students loved having the opportunity to “shop” during their lunch period. Thank you to the Digital Warriors led by Mrs. Shuhart and to Mr. Rosvally for making the pilot for the school store was a success. We look forward to opening our doors again after we return from a relaxing summer break.

CAS Scholar Leaders Named

Congratulations to Max Chayet and Jane Paknia for being named the CAS Scholar Leaders for 2014. The Connecticut Association of Schools' Scholar Leader Award is designed to give public recognition to one boy and one girl from each middle school in Connecticut. These individuals have distinguished themselves in scholarship and leadership through active participation in school and community. Both Jane and Max received their award at the statewide banquet held in Southington on June 8.



*In this issue...**Grade level News**Transitions**PRIDE School Assembly**Music and Art Festival**Born to Explore Assembly*Grade Level NewsThird Grade

This month during science time, third graders participated in an embedded task that had the students testing a variety of paper products to learn about the properties of paper. Using what they learned about properties, the students set up experiments to see if one brand of paper toweling was more absorbent and better than the others. The students worked with a partner to create an observation chart in their science notebooks and make predictions based on their previous

findings. After conducting all the experiments, the students wrote conclusions based on their data, and then they shared their findings with their classmates.



This month's AIM unit, an integrated unit encompassing science, literacy, technology, and research, focused on the 21st century outcomes of critical thinking and global problem solving. The students immersed themselves in an endangered animal of their choice. They followed the BIG 6 research process, which included the identification of essential and guiding questions, finding and evaluating a number of resources, taking notes, synthesizing notes, and then finally reflecting on those notes as a way to respond to the overall essential question: What are the contributing factors to both survival and endangerment? The students then demonstrated their learning by creating Power Point presentations. This has been a very high interest project, and all of the presentations have turned out great.

Fourth Grade

This month, fourth graders are reading multiple stories by Avi as part of their author study unit. They have been evaluating the author's style and craft, and why he creates the kind of stories he does. Students are learning how Avi draws upon his own life experiences to engage his audience and convey a meaningful message. As writers, the students are emulating this learning to craft fictional narratives with a specific message for their own audience. These fictional narratives will be used as mentor texts for next year's fourth-grade students.

In science, the fourth graders have been learning about Newtown's three laws of motion. Working together in small groups, they are using their new learning to create a jet toy. These jet toys are made of recycled materials and are balloon powered. The students first needed to create the jet toy so it could travel in a straight line. From there they are deciding how to change the jet toy so it can travel a distance, hold weight, travel faster, or travel the longest.



Fifth Grade

During science students learned about the “Goldilocks” characteristics of Earth that make it uniquely able to sustain life. Additionally, students explored different planets in our solar system and beyond with respect to their characteristics relative to Earth including atmosphere, temperature, size, distance from the Sun, water, etc. The AIM unit asked students to become an expert in one of Earth’s life sustaining features and team with other experts to identify and then modify a distant planet or moon so that it would be able to sustain life. Students chose how to present their findings and invite humans to their new colony.



The conclusion to the fifth-grade science unit on space is an exploration of how we get ourselves beyond Earth’s atmosphere. Students are asked to apply their knowledge of Isaac Newton’s laws of motion (fourth-grade science) to rocketry, specifically ‘for every action there is an opposite and equal reaction.’ Students experience this law first with a pop rocket inquiry, followed by building then launching bottle rockets. This challenging activity has become a fifth-grade tradition that all students look forward to completing.



Celebrations and End of Year Activities



Our Math Olympiad team held its annual awards breakfast on June 4. This year we had 50 fourth and fifth graders who came before school on Tuesday mornings to work on problem solving together and compete in five contests throughout the year. The Math Olympiad program not only stimulates enthusiasm and a love for mathematics, but helps students develop mathematical flexibility in solving problems, and fostering mathematical creativity and ingenuity. This year our fifth-grade team was

named to the National Math Olympiad Honor Roll. A team must be in the 90th percentile or better to earn this award.

The third-and fourth-grade field days were held on Tuesday, June 3. We had beautiful blue skies and temperatures in the 70s. The students participated in a variety of fun activities on the high school field, and the PTO rented an inflatable obstacle course and slide that everyone enjoyed. Unfortunately, the weather has been somewhat of a challenge for the fifth grade field day, but we are hoping the weather will hold out this week to have a fun end-of-school event. In addition to the games and class competitions, the students will be treated to a barbeque of hamburgers and hot dogs generously prepared by our parents.



Music Concerts

The end of the school year brought final concerts for our chorus, band and orchestra. The chorus concert featured performances by the fourth-and-fifth grade chorus as well as the Festival Singers. The theme for the evening was Music of the Sea and featured a variety of songs ranging from the harmonious song, “A Distant Shore,” to the rocking “Joy to the World.” The evening ended with a cleverly choreographed and beautifully sung version of “Under the Sea.”



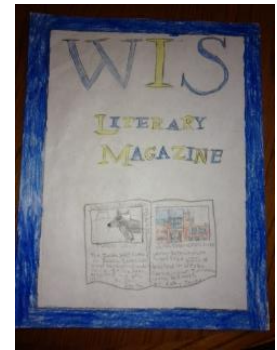
Equally exciting was the fifth-grade band and orchestra concert which included a few numbers performed by the advanced String Ensemble. The evening also featured several soloists who took turns demonstrating their ability to improvise. It was thrilling to hear how much the students had grown musically over the year.



On Wednesday evening, June 4, 76 fourth and fifth graders participated in our Annual Talent Show. The evening showcased the incredible talent of so many of our students who sang, danced, and played a variety of musical instruments from piano to violin and guitar. It was a wonderful evening and all of the performers did an outstanding job.

Literary Magazine

With a generous donation from the WIS PTO, our school has published its first ever literary magazine. Students were asked to submit a favorite piece of writing. The only prerequisites were that the writing was completed in school during the 2013-14 school year and that their submission was limited to 250 words. Submissions came in fast and furiously, teachers worked with students to edit, and our high school interns worked hard to format the publication. All students will receive a copy on the last day of school.



Hurlbutt Elementary School

Laura Kaddis, Principal

In this issue...

Hurlbutt Celebrates a Positive School Climate

Teaching and Learning

One School One Book

School-wide Celebrations and End-of-Year Activities

Links to the Community

Hurlbutt Celebrates a Positive School Climate

Hurlbutt students and staff gathered for our final PBIS assembly of the 2013-14 school year. We celebrated the safe, kind, and responsible behavior that our students have demonstrated all year. As a new twist to our Hurlbutt chant, buddy classes performed their unique adaptations. Some classes danced to the chant while others changed the rhythm of the chant. The children enjoyed hearing all the different variations on a familiar tune.

I don't know if you've been told.

Hurlbutt kids are made of gold.

We are kind to everyone.

We want our school to be fun.

Be responsible everywhere.

Safe and kind will show we care.

Be safe. (clap clap) Be kind. (clap clap) Be responsible. (clap clap)

Go Hurlbutt.

Teaching and Learning

Second-grade students participated in the cornerstone end-of-year assessment that was designed to draw on all the skills they have learned throughout their time at Hurlbutt. Students were challenged to help make the Memorial Day Fair even better. Using artifacts, including data about ride times, food preferences, and letters from attendees, the students gathered evidence to support their proposals. Each class discussed their proposals and voted on which one they felt would have the biggest impact on people attending the fair. Volunteers from each class then presented to the PTO Executive



Board Meeting. Some of the proposals were: add more food to shorten the food lines, add allergy-free food choices, add rides that are handicap-accessible, and add more rides for older children. Students presented their ideas orally and some had charts and models supporting their ideas. The students then reflected on their experience with the cornerstone. Their feedback was fascinating. “It was fun because you had a chance to share your opinions.” They also felt that it was great “for us kids to actually change something.” Many described it as “fun because adults don’t always know what kids want and it is not a fake thing. It is a real thing that actually makes a change.” Through this activity students were engaged in solving real-world problems with a focus on critical thinking and interpreting and demonstrating a deep understanding of the issue.

One School One Book

Our One School One Book program was a huge success. *Martha Speaks Shelter Dog Blues* was quickly embraced by our students. The strong picture support in the book allowed even our youngest learners to become enthralled with the story. Our students demonstrated their compassion and generosity by raising over \$815.00 for the Humane Society with our *Pennies for Puppies* and *Coins for*



Kittens initiative. Students sent in pictures of themselves reading their books at home, and those are proudly displayed around the school. The experience of everyone reading the same book was a powerful community builder. At our closing assembly we read the final chapter of the book as a school. Martha even stopped by to say hello.



Our last Family Fun Night was a celebration of our reading of *Martha Speaks*. Martha was in attendance and was able to meet Horace, our school mascot. Thank you to all of our parents, staff, and community members for their support of this program.

School-Wide Celebrations and End-of-Year Activities

We have been busy with many end-of-year activities and celebrations. Kindergarten, first, and second graders each have a field day event planned. The students enjoy the activities and it is a day to celebrate a year of making friends and learning together. To help kick off summer reading, one

activity was a book relay activity in which students moved books from the mobile book shelves into crates.



Our Kindergarten concert gave students an opportunity to perform songs and chants they learned this year with Mr. Henderson. The students amazed us with their musical ability and their performance skills. Performing in front of an audience is a skill that even the youngest students can feel proud of.



An end-of-year report would not be complete without mentioning the Memorial Day Fair. Horace, the Hurlbutt Honeybee, and Webster, the WIS Wolf, were proud parade participants. Many Hurlbutt families enjoyed the rides, food, and camaraderie of this much loved Weston tradition.



Links to the Community

Our preschool students enjoyed a visit by a Weston police officer to learn about community helpers. The students enjoyed meeting the officer and were thrilled when the officer let them hear the wail of his car's siren.

