



OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL

Educating the Mind. Empowering the Heart. Engaging in Service.

Lunch Offer versus Serve Policy

Name of Local Education Agency (LEA): Our Lady Star of the Sea School

Implementation Date: 9/9/24

Offer versus serve (OVS) is a policy for reimbursable meals that allows students to decline a certain number of food components in the meal in order to reduce plate waste and food cost.

A school lunch eligible for federal reimbursement shall offer five (5) food components in the appropriate amounts per grade grouping:

1. Fruit
2. Vegetable
3. Grains
4. Meat/Meat Alternate
5. Milk

Students are allowed to decline two (2) of the five (5) required food components, but must select at least $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of either fruit (or fruit combination) or $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of vegetables (or vegetable combination) or $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of a fruit/ vegetable combination.

After taking the required $\frac{1}{2}$ cup fruit or vegetable, students must select at least two (2) additional components in the full amounts (per grade group requirements) to count toward the reimbursable offer versus serve meal.

The student's decision to accept all five (5) components or to decline two (2) components shall not affect the price charged for the meal. The lunch is priced as a unit. If students do not choose enough food items to comprise a reimbursable meal, a la carte prices will be charged.

School staff cannot require a student to take a particular food component (except the required $\frac{1}{2}$ cup fruit or vegetable). It is the student's choice to select three, four or all five components.

School food service staff will be trained annually.

Signs will be posted to assist students in identifying a reimbursable meal under OVS