

Birthday Celebrations 2007-2008*

The state government has modified their policy on Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value to exclude birthday celebrations for children. Food brought in for a child celebrating his or her birthday may now occur. We have developed choices for parents to select one option of celebrating a child's birthday.

Knowing this the following policy is in place for Helotes Elementary:

- ❖ Students wanting to celebrate their birthday may do so. In any circumstance only one birthday or one dessert maybe served in a day. We have chosen three options of which parents may choose one:

Option 1

- ❖ **Parents may purchase ice cream in the cafeteria for students to eat after they have eaten lunch.**
 - **Parents must make arrangements with the cafeteria managers prior to the child's birthday to purchase the ice cream.**
 - **Our cafeteria managers will know the class total and will charge the parent \$.50 per student.**
 - **The cafeteria will give the parent/child a birthday coupon to give to the cashier as classmates arrive for lunch.**

- ❖ **Ordinarily children in Kinder – 2nd purchase ice cream only on Friday. Arrangements will have to be made in advance, and students will be able to have birthday ice cream any day of the week when celebrating a classmate's birthday.**

- ❖ **Third – 5th grade may celebrate any day of the week. We'll still have one celebration per day. Option 2**

A parent may choose to send a goodie bag to school for each child in the class that will be disseminated at day's end by the child celebrating the birthday. These goodie bags will be placed in backpacks and taken home. If a parent chooses to include candy, etc. they may do so.

Option 3

A parent may send cupcakes to school with the child to celebrate the birthday. Cupcakes will be eaten outside after lunch. State and federal law prohibits us from serving them in the cafeteria.

- ❖ If more than one coupon arrives on a given day, one set will be reserved for the next school day.

If a birthday was celebrated during the summer, parents need to call their child's teacher to schedule a time celebrate, if they choose, so they do not conflict with another celebration.

Parents may bring their own child lunch from outside the campus. Parents may not bring food from outside the campus for another child.

We appreciate parents' support in helping us with the changes the state continues make.