

-12. Food and Beverage Regulations

Before school. Students will be allowed to consume food and beverages only in the cafeteria and in the hallways adjacent to the cafeteria and adjacent to the gymnasium prior to the first bell each day. Prior to proceeding to homeroom, students must dispose of all food, beverages, and waste in the provided containers.

During lunch. Students may report to the cafeteria only during their scheduled lunch periods. Students must walk in an orderly manner to and from the cafeteria. Running in the corridors is not allowed. Students are not permitted to take food or drink out of the cafeteria. Food and beverage are not allowed in the library during lunch. Students are not allowed to share snacks or food with each other. After eating, students must dispose of waste in the provided containers. Students must remain in the cafeteria or on the patio until the lunch period ends. No one may leave the patio area, enter the parking lot, or leave school grounds during the lunch period. No food delivery is permitted.

After school. Food and beverage may be consumed in designated areas after school—including the cafeteria and the table area in the library.

During structured learning time. SVTHS has observed an increased incidence of life-threatening allergies (LTAs) and, at the same time, is aware of the nation-wide increase in the number of overweight students among elementary, middle, and secondary school populations—conditions referenced in the District’s “Annual Student Health Statistics.” The following food-related restrictions respond to these concerns with the intention of promoting safety and wellness among all students during the school day. Within this context, the *school day* is defined as those hours of the day during which students are engaged in structured learning time. Time before the first bell, scheduled school lunch, scheduled breaks, and after-school hours are explicitly excluded from the *school day* definition. Restrictions therefore do not apply to food brought-in by students for personal consumption during lunch, break, or after-school time. The general restrictions that do apply to food in instructional settings follow.

- No planned or spontaneous holiday or special-event celebrations or parties will be allowed in any instructional setting.
- Food or beverage will not be used as a reward or incentive for any student or group of students during structured learning time.
- No food or beverages are allowed in any instructional setting, with the following, specific exceptions.
 - Food and/or beverage will be allowed in an instructional setting if a student’s IEP or 504 Plan stipulates a student’s access to either. If the stipulation is unclear, the teacher must contact the school nurse for clarification.
 - Food and/or beverage will be allowed in an instructional setting if a teacher includes food as a curricular component. Two conditions apply to this exception.

- Snacks must be selected from the John C. Stalker A-List of snack products. See <http://www.johnstalkerinstitute.org/alist/>
- If a teacher includes homemade food as part of project, then he/she will send a letter to the parents of all students who are enrolled in the classes to whom the projects are assigned. The letter, which must be sent at least seven calendar days prior to each project's presentation, will specify the foods that will be incorporated in each project. If a student cannot sample any homemade food, then the teacher and parent will devise an alternative strategy for the student's participation. Both the teacher and parent are responsible for reminding the student of specific food restrictions associated with any project.

Cafeteria accounts. All students, upon entering Shawsheen Valley Regional Vocational Technical School District, have a breakfast/lunch account designated for them by their individual student identification number in the school cafeteria. Money can be added to their account in the form of cash, check or credit card, either in person or on-line at www.shawsheentech.org via the Lunch Menu button located at the bottom of the webpage. Students are allowed to use these funds to purchase breakfast and/or lunch. The students are notified as they go through the cafeteria line once their balances reach \$10 or less.

Once students have depleted their account balances, the accounts will not be able to go into a negative balance. If the students go through the line with a zero balance and no other form of payment, they will be given an alternative lunch that meets the federal guidelines consisting of proteins, grains, vegetable and dairy at a minimal charge. Individuals with questions should contact Bob Roach in the Cafeteria Office at broach@shawtech.org or (978) 671-3699.