



REPORT TO

REGULAR BOARD

CAFETERIA SERVICES AND FOOD AND BEVERAGE SOLD IN SCHOOLS POLICY

*Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous¹ hearts - **Acts 2:46***

Drafted

April 4, 2025

Meeting Date

May 22, 2025

Jacqueline Charles, Head of Procurement Services & Risk Management

Ryan Putnam, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer

Derek Luk, Senior Policy Advisor

Shazia Vlahos, Chief Communications Officer, Policy, Government Relations & Strategy

Nicole McInerney, Acting Chief Communications Officer, Policy, Government Relations & Strategy

INFORMATION REPORT

Vision: *IN GOD'S IMAGE: Growing in Knowledge, with Justice and Hope.*

Mission: *Nurturing the faith development and academic excellence of our Catholic learning community through the love of God, neighbour, and self.*



MULTI-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN
2022 - 2025

IN GOD'S IMAGE: Growing in Knowledge, with Justice and Hope



Brendan Browne
Director of Education

Adrian Della Mora
Associate Director of Academic
Affairs & Chief Operating Officer

Derek Boyce
Associate Director of Corporate
Services and Chief Commercial Officer

Ryan Putnam
Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To provide the Board with a proposed Cafeteria Services and Food and Beverage Sold in Schools Policy (Appendix A - tracked and Appendix B - clean) that incorporates the Cafeteria - Secondary Schools Policy (Appendix C), formerly S.M.13 the into the Food and Beverage Sold in Schools, formerly S.M.08.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 22 hours.

B. PURPOSE

The proposed Cafeteria Services and Food and Beverage Sold in Schools Policy provides a more unified and streamlined approach to managing nutrition, health standards and food operations within schools.

C. BACKGROUND

1. The Food and Beverage Sold in Schools Policy was last reviewed and approved on October 8, 2019 and the Cafeteria Secondary Schools Policy was last reviewed and approved on June 6, 2006.
2. On October 1, 2024, GAP approved the review of the Food and Beverage Sold in Schools Policy and Cafeteria Secondary Schools Policy.
3. On February 4, 2025, staff proposed that the Cafeteria - Secondary Schools Policy be incorporated into the Food and Beverage Sold in Schools.
4. GAP referred the proposed policy back to staff with the following motion:
That this item be referred back to Staff to consider the following:
 - i. *That Students and Parents participation be included as part of the vendor selection;*
 - ii. *That cultural cuisine be considered as a Regulation in the Policy;*
 - iii. *That culinary programs be considered as a pilot to be included in food service or food nutrition programs in schools without current food services; and*
 - iv. *That partnerships be explored.*
5. On May 6, staff addressed GAP's motion in an information report, and the proposed merged policy was approved by GAP.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

1. In response to motion i., the procurement of cafeteria services follows a standardized evaluation process based on the specific criteria outlined in the Request for Proposal (RFP). In keeping with Broader Public Sector Procurement Directive (2024) regulations, the contract must be awarded to the food service provider that scores highest according to established criteria. Regulation 22 has been added that notes: "Should there be suggestions or feedback for a selected vendor, students and parents/guardians are encouraged

to share with the principal who can relay this information to the vendor and/or procurement staff.”

2. In response to motion ii., regulation 21 has been added into the policy that notes: “where possible, cultural cuisine be considered by cafeteria service providers to better reflect the diversity of our school communities.”
3. In response to motion iii., all 5 secondary schools without cafeteria services were contacted (Bishop Marrocco/ T. Merton Secondary School, Cardinal Carter, St. Michael Choir, St. Patrick Catholic Secondary School, and St. Mother Teresa Catholic Academy) to better understand their local circumstances and what food options are available to students.

Staff visited St. Patrick Catholic Secondary School and St. Mother Teresa Catholic Academy, as they are the only two schools that meet the criteria outlined in the motion - both lack cafeteria services and offer a culinary program (SHSM – Hospitality and Tourism).

a. St. Patrick Catholic Secondary School:

- i. While visiting the school, it was shared that providing food options for students via the culinary aspect of the SHSM (Hospitality and Tourism) may not be viable since *“The school is located within a very short walk to Danforth Avenue which provides a wide variety of food options for students.”*
- ii. The school currently offers a School Breakfast Program as part of its overall Student Nutrition Program.
- iii. In response to iii, pursuing a “pilot” at St. Patrick Catholic Secondary School would require the existing SHSM program delivery to change, and may not reflect local needs and circumstances as identified.

b. St. Mother Teresa Catholic Academy:

- i. A cost recovery model is employed where students are charged \$6.00 per meal prepared by SHSM students.
- ii. SHSM students prepare and serve approximately 200 servings, 3 days a week.
- iii. St. Mother Teresa Catholic Academy does not have cafeteria services and, unlike St. Patrick Catholic Secondary School, has limited food options nearby.
- iv. This cafeteria service “pilot” developed organically since the teacher and Principal identified a specific need and an opportunity via the SHSM (Hospitality and Tourism).

4. In response to motion iv., coterminous board partnerships are complex due to labour considerations (i.e. if union staff are employed in the cafeteria), legal, safety, and supervision concerns associated with a model where students access the cafeteria services of a coterminous school, along with BPS Procurement Directives.
5. Regulation 1 of the Cafeteria – Secondary Schools Policy is incorporated with Regulation 3a of the merged Cafeteria Services and Food and Beverage Sold in School Policy.
6. Regulation 2 from the Cafeteria – Secondary Schools Policy has been included in the “Scope and Responsibility” section of the merged policy.
7. Regulations 3 to 8 from the Cafeteria – Secondary Schools Policy were copied over to the new merged policy under Regulation 15 - 20.

E. GAP RECOMMENDATION

1. GAP recommends to Board that the proposed Cafeteria Services and Food and Beverage Sold in Schools Policy provided in Appendix A (tracked) and Appendix B (clean), be approved and the Cafeteria - Secondary Schools Policy provided in Appendix C be rescinded.