Offer vs Serve Policy for Lunch

A school lunch eligible for federal reimbursement shall offer 5 food components (milk, fruit, vegetables, grains, meat/meat alternatives). Students are allowed to decline 2 of the 5 required food components, but must select at least ½ cup of either a fruit (or fruit combination) or a vegetable (or vegetable combination) or ½ cup fruit/vegetable combination. After selecting the ½ cup fruit or vegetable requirement, students must select at least 2 additional full components in the full amounts to count toward the reimbursable offer versus serve meal. The student’s decision to accept all 5 components or to decline 2 components shall not affect the price charged for the meal. The lunch is priced as a unit. Offer vs. Serve is the policy in all school cafeterias; the only exceptions being bagged lunches for field trips and special circumstances.

Offer vs. Serve Policy for Breakfast

A school breakfast eligible for federal reimbursement shall offer 3 food components (milk, fruit, grains) that consists of a minimum of 4 food items. Students are allowed to decline 1 food item, but must select at least ½ cup of fruit (or fruit combination). After meeting the ½ cup fruit requirement, students must select the other food components in the full amounts to count toward the reimbursable offer versus serve meal. The student’s decision to accept all 4 components or to decline 1 item shall not affect the price charged for the meal. The breakfast is priced as a unit. Offer vs. Serve is the policy in both school cafeterias; the only exceptions being bagged lunches for field trips and special circumstances.