APPENDIX: NUTRITION STANDARDS FOR ONTARIO SCHOOLS

Read the information on the food label – particularly the Nutrition Facts table and the ingredient list – and compare this information with the nutrition criteria outlined below in order to determine whether a food or beverage may be sold at the school.

Products in the "Sell Most" category must make up at least 80 per cent of all food choices and at least 80 per cent of all beverage choices that are available for sale in all venues, through all programs, and at all events on school premises.

Products in the "Sell Less" category must make up *no more than 20 per cent* of all food choices and *no more than 20 per cent* of all beverage choices that are available for sale in all venues, through all programs, and at all events on school premises.

Nutrition Standards for Food

All food sold in schools must meet the standards set out in Ontario Regulation 200/08, "Trans Fat Standards", made under the Education Act.

Vegetables and Fruit

- Compare the nutrition criteria below with the Nutrition Facts table and the ingredient list on the food label.
- See the section "Nutrition Standards for Beverages" for the nutrition criteria for vegetable and fruit juices and juice blends.
- Food should always be prepared in a healthy way that is, using cooking methods that require little or no added fat or sodium, such as baking, barbequing, boiling, broiling, grilling, microwaving, poaching, roasting, steaming, or stir-frying.

	Sell Most (≥ 80%)	Sell Less (≤ 20%)	Not Permitted for Sale
	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria
Fresh, Frozen, Canned, and Dried Vegetables and Fruit	Vegetable or fruit is the first item on the ingredient list and Fat: ≤ 3g and Sodium: ≤ 360mg Examples: • Fresh or frozen vegetables with little or no added salt • Fresh or frozen fruit with no added sugar • Canned vegetables • Canned fruit packed in juice or light syrup • Unsweetened apple sauce • Some low-fat frozen potato products, including French fries • Some dried fruit and 100% fruit leathers*	Vegetable or fruit is the first item on the ingredient list and Fat: ≤ 5g and Saturated fat: ≤ 2g and Sodium: ≤ 480mg Examples: • Some dried fruit and 100% fruit leathers • Lightly seasoned or sauced vegetables and fruit • Some prepared mixed vegetables	Sugar** is the first item on the ingredient list or Fat: > 5g or Saturated fat: > 2g or Sodium: > 480mg Examples: • Vegetable and fruit products prepared with higher amounts of fat, sugar, and/or salt, including deepfried vegetables • Some packaged frozen and deep-fried potato products, including hash browns and French fries • Some fruit snacks made with juice (e.g., gummies, fruit rolls)

Vegetables and Fruit (cont.)

	Sell Most (≥ 80%)	Sell Less (≤ 20%)	Not Permitted for Sale
	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria
Canned	Fat: ≤ 3g		Fat: > 3g
Tomatoes and	and Sodium: ≤ 480mg		or Sodium: > 480mg
Tomato-Based			
Products	Examples:		Examples:
	Some whole, crushed, or diced tomatoes		Whole, crushed, or diced tomatoes that are higher
	Some pasta sauce		in fat or sodium
			Pasta sauce that is higher in fat or sodium
Vegetable and	Fat: ≤ 3g	Fat: ≤ 5g	Fat: > 5g
Fruit Chips	and Sodium: ≤ 240mg	and Saturated fat: ≤ 2g	or Saturated fat: > 2g
		and Sodium: ≤ 480mg	or Sodium: > 480mg
	Examples:		
	• Some lower-fat, lower-sodium vegetable chips (e.g.,	Examples:	Examples:
	potato, carrot)	 Some vegetable chips (e.g., potato, carrot) 	Some vegetable chips that are higher in fat or
	• Some lower-fat, lower-sodium fruit chips (e.g.,	 Some fruit chips (e.g., banana, apple, pear) 	sodium
	banana, apple, pear)		Some fruit chips that are higher in fat or sodium

^{*}Food high in sugars and starches (natural or added) can leave particles clinging to the teeth and put dental health at risk. Vegetable and fruit choices of particular concern include fruit leathers, dried fruit, and chips (potato or other). It is suggested that these foods be eaten only at meal times and that foods that clear quickly from the mouth be eaten at snack times, such as fresh (raw or cooked), canned, or frozen vegetables or fruit.

^{**}Look for other words for sugar, such as glucose, fructose, sucrose, dextrose, dextrin, corn syrup, maple syrup, cane sugar, honey, and concentrated fruit juice.

Grain Products

- Compare the nutrition criteria below with the Nutrition Facts table and the ingredient list on the food label.
- Food should always be prepared in a healthy way that is, using cooking methods that require little or no added fat or sodium, such as baking, barbequing, boiling, broiling, grilling, microwaving, poaching, roasting, steaming, or stir-frying.

	Sell Most (≥ 80%)	Sell Less (≤ 20%)	Not Permitted for Sale
	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria
Bread	Whole grain is the first item on the ingredient list and Saturated fat: ≤ 2g and Sodium: ≤ 240mg and Fibre: ≥ 2g Examples: • Whole grain breads, including buns, bagels, English muffins, rolls, naan, pitas, tortillas, chapattis, rotis, bannock • Whole grain pizza dough and flatbread	Saturated fat: ≤ 2g and Sodium: ≤ 480mg Examples: • White (enriched) breads, including buns, bagels, English muffins, rolls, naan, pitas, tortillas, chapattis, rotis, bannock • White (enriched) pizza dough	Saturated fat: > 2g or Sodium: > 480mg Examples: • White breads that are higher in fat or sodium • Some cheese breads, scones, and biscuits
Pasta, Rice, and Other Grains	Fat: ≤ 3g and Saturated fat: ≤ 2g and Sodium: ≤ 240mg Examples: • Whole wheat or white (enriched) pasta, including couscous • White, brown, and wild rice, rice noodles, and soba noodles • Quinoa, bulgur, wheat berries, spelt, and other whole grains	Fat: ≤ 5g and Saturated fat: ≤ 2g and Sodium: ≤ 480mg Examples: • Some pasta, rice, and other grains	Fat: > 5g or Saturated fat: > 2g or Sodium: > 480mg Examples: Some pasta, rice, and other grains that are higher in fat, saturated fat, or sodium
Baked Goods	Fat: ≤ 5g and Saturated fat: ≤ 2g and Fibre: ≥ 2g Examples: • Some muffins, cookies, grain-based bars • Some whole grain waffles and pancakes	Fat: ≤ 10g and Saturated fat: ≤ 2g and Fibre: ≥ 2g Examples: Some muffins, cookies, grain-based bars, snacks Some waffles and pancakes	Fat: > 10g or Saturated fat: > 2g or Fibre: < 2g Examples: • Most croissants, danishes, cakes, doughnuts, pies, turnovers, pastries • Some cookies and squares

Grain Products (cont.)

Nutrition Criteria at: ≤ 3g nd Saturated fat: ≤ 2g	Nutrition Criteria Fat: ≤ 5g	Nutrition Criteria Fat: > 5g
	Fat: ≤ 5g	Fat: > 5 o
nd Saturated fat: ≤ 2g		I at. / Jg
	and Saturated fat: ≤ 2g	or Saturated fat: > 2g
nd Sodium: ≤ 240mg	and Sodium: ≤ 480mg	or Sodium: > 480mg
camples:	Examples:	Examples:
Some whole grain crackers, pita chips, and flatbreads	Some crackers, pretzels, and popcorn	 Crackers, pretzels, and popcorn higher in fat and sodium
Some packaged crackers and popcorn		Most corn chips and other snack mixes
/hole grain is the first item on the ingredient list nd Saturated fat: ≤ 2g		Whole grain is <i>not</i> the first item on the ingredient list
nd Fibre: ≥ 2g		or Saturated fat: > 2g
		or Fibre: < 2g
camples:		
Some breakfast cereals, including oatmeal, some		Examples:
granola, and cold cereals containing fibre		Some breakfast cereals
S fi S	amples: ome whole grain crackers, pita chips, and latbreads ome packaged crackers and popcorn nole grain is the first item on the ingredient list d Saturated fat: ≤ 2g d Fibre: ≥ 2g amples: ome breakfast cereals, including oatmeal, some	mples: ome whole grain crackers, pita chips, and latbreads ome packaged crackers and popcorn mole grain is the first item on the ingredient list d Saturated fat: ≤ 2g d Fibre: ≥ 2g mples: ome breakfast cereals, including oatmeal, some

Milk and Alternatives

- Compare the nutrition criteria below with the Nutrition Facts table and the ingredient list on the food label.
- See the section "Nutrition Standards for Beverages" for the nutrition criteria for fluid milk and fluid milk alternatives.

	Sell Most (≥ 80%)	Sell Less (≤ 20%)	Not Permitted for Sale
	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria
Yogurt/Kefir	Fat: ≤ 3.25% M.F.* or ≤ 3g		Fat: > 3.25% M.F. or > 3g
	Examples:		Examples:
	Plain and flavoured yogurt, yogurt tubes		Yogurt higher in fat, such as Balkan-style
Cheese**	Fat: ≤ 20% M.F.	Sodium: ≤ 480mg	Sodium: > 480mg
	and Sodium: ≤ 360mg and Calcium: ≥ 15% DV***	and Calcium: ≥ 15% DV	or Calcium: < 15% DV
		Examples:	Examples:
	Examples:	 Most hard and soft, non-processed cheese, including 	Some processed cheese products
	Cheeses lower in fat and sodium, including part-skim mozzarella, light cheddar, some Swiss and ricotta	cheddar, mozzarella, brick, parmesan, some feta, Monterey jack, havarti, and gouda; cottage cheese, cheese curds, and cheese strings	Most cream cheese
Milk-Based		Fat: ≤ 5g	Fat: > 5g
Desserts		and Sodium: ≤ 360mg	or Sodium: > 360mg
		and Calcium: ≥ 5% DV	or Calcium: < 5% DV
		Examples:	Examples:
		Some frozen yogurt, puddings, custards, ice milk,	Some puddings
		gelato	 Most frozen desserts high in fat and sugar, including ice cream, ice cream bars, ice cream cakes, and ice cream sandwiches

^{*}M.F. = Milk Fat. The amount can be found on the front of the food label.

^{**}Encourage selection of lower-fat cheese options.

^{***}DV = Daily Value.

Meat and Alternatives

- Compare the nutrition criteria below with the Nutrition Facts table and ingredient list on the food label.
- Food should always be prepared in a healthy way that is, using cooking methods that require little or no added fat or sodium, such as baking, barbequing, boiling, broiling, grilling, microwaving, poaching, roasting, steaming, or stir-frying.

Nutrition Criteria at: ≤ 10g nd Sodium: ≤ 480mg xamples:	Nutrition Criteria Fat: ≤ 14g and Sodium: ≤ 480mg	Nutrition Criteria Fat: > 14g or Sodium: > 480mg
nd Sodium: ≤ 480mg		
-	and Sodium: ≤ 480mg	or Sodium: > 480mg
xamples:		
	Examples:	Examples:
Extra-lean ground meat	Lean ground meat	 Meat that contains higher amounts of fat or sodium,
Lean beef, goat, lamb, pork, or poultry	 Beef, goat, lamb, pork, or poultry 	including chicken wings, bacon, pork and beef ribs
Some breaded chicken strips and nuggets	 Some breaded chicken strips and nuggets 	Some wieners
Some lean meatballs	Some meatballs	Most pepperoni sticks
Some lean hamburger patties	Some hamburger patties	Most beef/turkey jerk products
at: ≤ 5g	Fat: ≤ 5g	Fat: > 5g
nd Sodium: ≤ 480mg	and Sodium: ≤ 600mg	or Sodium: > 600mg
xamples:	Examples:	Examples:
Some lean deli meat	Some lean deli meat	Deli meat higher in fat or sodium
at: ≤ 8g	Fat: ≤ 12g	Fat: > 12g
nd Sodium: ≤ 480mg	and Sodium: ≤ 480mg	or Sodium: > 480mg
xamples:	Examples:	Examples:
Fresh, frozen, or canned fish	Some frozen, breaded fish (e.g., fish sticks) Fresh, frozen, or cannod fish	Some breaded or battered fish higher in added fat or sodium
	Tresh, nozen, or canned him	• Fresh or frozen fish with a higher mercury content*
at: ≤ 7g		Fat: > 7g
nd Sodium: ≤ 480mg		or Sodium: > 480mg
ar x ar	Extra-lean ground meat Lean beef, goat, lamb, pork, or poultry Some breaded chicken strips and nuggets Some lean meatballs Some lean hamburger patties It: ≤ 5g Ind Sodium: ≤ 480mg It: ≤ 8g Ind Sodium: ≤ 480mg It: ≤ 8g Ind Sodium: ≤ 480mg It: ≤ 8g Ind Sodium: ≤ 480mg It: ≤ 7g	 Extra-lean ground meat Lean beef, goat, lamb, pork, or poultry Some breaded chicken strips and nuggets Some lean meatballs Some lean hamburger patties Some hamburger patties Fat: ≤ 5g and Sodium: ≤ 480mg amples: Some lean deli meat Examples: Some lean deli meat Examples: Some lean deli meat Fat: ≤ 12g and Sodium: ≤ 480mg and Sodium: ≤ 480mg Fat: ≤ 12g and Sodium: ≤ 480mg Examples: Fresh, frozen, or canned fish Fresh, frozen, or canned fish (e.g., fish sticks) Fresh, frozen, or canned fish

Meat and Alternatives (cont.)

	Sell Most (≥ 80%)	Sell Less (≤ 20%)	Not Permitted for Sale
	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria
Nuts, Protein	Not coated with candy, chocolate, sugar, or		Coated with candy, chocolate, sugar, and/or
Butters, and	yogurt		yogurt
Seeds	and Sodium: ≤ 480mg		or Sodium: > 480mg
	Examples: Nut, legume, and seed butters, including peanut, almond, walnut, soy, sesame, and sunflower Nuts and seeds, including almonds, walnuts, peanuts, sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds (papitas)		Examples: • Coated nuts • Some roasted and salted nuts
Meat Alternatives, such as Tofu, Beans, and Lentils	Fat: ≤ 8g and Sodium: ≤ 480mg and Protein: ≥ 10g Examples: • Some vegetarian burgers, simulated meat strips, veggie meatballs, veggie ground round, veggie wieners and sausages, tofu and tempeh • Beans and lentils		Fat: > 8g or Sodium: > 480mg or Protein: < 10g Examples: • Some vegetarian products high in sodium • Some meat alternatives that are higher in fat or sodium or lower in protein

^{*}Certain types of fish may contain levels of mercury that can be harmful to human health. Fish caught in local lakes and streams may have different levels of mercury from those found in stores. Canned "light" tuna contains less mercury than "white" or "albacore" tuna, and salmon generally has low levels of mercury. See Health Canada's website for continually updated information and a list of fish with low levels of mercury, at http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/securit/chem-chim/environ/mercur/cons-adv-etud-eng.php.

Mixed Dishes

Note: Mixed dishes are products that contain more than one major ingredient.

Mixed Dishes With a Nutrition Facts Table

- Compare the nutrition criteria below with the Nutrition Facts table and the ingredient list provided by the supplier.
- Food should always be prepared in a healthy way that is, using cooking methods that require little or no added fat or sodium, such as baking, barbequing, boiling, broiling, grilling, microwaving, poaching, roasting, steaming, or stir-frying.

	Sell Most (≥ 80%)	Sell Less (≤ 20%)	Not Permitted for Sale
	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria
Entrées	Fat: ≤ 10g	Fat: ≤ 15g	Fat: > 15g
(e.g., frozen pizza, sandwiches, pasta,	<pre>and Saturated fat: ≤ 5g and Sodium: ≤ 960mg</pre>	and Saturated fat: ≤ 7g and Sodium: ≤ 960mg	or Saturated fat: > 7g or Sodium: > 960mg
hot dogs)	and Fibre: ≥ 2g	and Fibre: ≥ 2g	or Fibre: < 2g
	and Protein: ≥ 10g	and Protein: ≥ 7g	or Protein: < 7g
Soups	Fat: ≤ 3g and Sodium: ≤ 720mg	Fat: ≤ 5g and Saturated fat: ≤ 2g	Fat: > 5g or Saturated fat: > 2g
	and Fibre: ≥ 2g	and Sodium: ≤ 720mg	or Sodium: > 720mg
Side Dishes	Fat: ≤ 5g	Fat: ≤ 7g	Fat: > 7g
(e.g., grain and/or vegetable salads)	<pre>and Saturated fat: ≤ 2g and Sodium: ≤ 360mg</pre>	<pre>and Saturated fat: ≤ 2g and Sodium: ≤ 360mg</pre>	<pre>or Saturated fat: > 2g or Sodium: > 360mg</pre>
	and Fibre: ≥ 2g		

Mixed Dishes (cont.)

Mixed Dishes Without a Nutrition Facts Table

- For every ingredient used, refer to the nutrition criteria in this appendix for the appropriate food groups.
- Food should always be prepared in a healthy way that is, using cooking methods that require little or no added fat or sodium, such as baking, barbequing, boiling, broiling, grilling, microwaving, poaching, roasting, steaming, or stir-frying.

	Sell Most (≥ 80%)	Sell Less (≤ 20%)	Not Permitted for Sale
	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria
Entrées (e.g., pizza, sandwiches, pasta, hot dogs)	All major ingredients* are from the "Sell Most" category.	One or more major ingredients are from the "Sell Less" category.	Cannot be sold if prepared with any ingredients from the "Not Permitted for Sale" category.
Soups	All major ingredients are from the "Sell Most" category.	One or more major ingredients are from the "Sell Less" category.	Cannot be sold if prepared with any ingredients from the "Not Permitted for Sale" category.
Side Dishes (e.g., grain and/or vegetable salads)	All major ingredients are from the "Sell Most" category.	One or more major ingredients are from the "Sell Less" category.	Cannot be sold if prepared with any ingredients from the "Not Permitted for Sale" category.

^{*}A major ingredient is any product that is identified in one of the food groups set out in the nutrition standards – that is, Vegetables and Fruit, Grain Products, Milk and Alternatives, and Meat and Alternatives. *All* pizza toppings are considered major ingredients.

Miscellaneous Items

Minor Ingredients

- The following are considered minor ingredients and are to be used in limited amounts, as defined under "Serving Size".
- Choose products that are lower in fat and/or sodium.

Ingredients	Serving Size
Condiments and Spreads	≤ 15ml (1 tbsp)
Gravies and Sauces	≤ 60ml (4 tbsp)
Dips	≤ 30ml (2 tbsp)
Fats	≤ 5ml (1 tsp)
Oils and Dressings	≤ 15ml (1 tbsp)
Other (e.g., chocolate chips, coconut, olives, parmesan cheese)	≤ 15ml (1 tbsp)

Not Permitted for Sale: Confectionery (Examples)

Candy

Chocolate

Energy bars

Licorice

Gum

Gummies

Popsicles and freezies, if not prepared with 100% juice

Nutrition Standards for Beverages

Separate beverage standards are provided for elementary and secondary schools.

All beverages sold in schools must meet the standards set out in Ontario Regulation 200/08, "Trans Fat Standards", made under the Education Act.

Beverages - Elementary Schools

Compare the nutrition criteria below with the Nutrition Facts table and ingredient list on the food label.

	Sell Most (≥ 80%)	Sell Less (≤ 20%)	Not Permitted for Sale
	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria
Water	Plain		
Milk and Milk-Based	Fat: ≤ 2% M.F.* or ≤ 5g		Fat: > 2% M.F. or > 5g
Beverages (Plain or	and Sugar: ≤ 28g		or Sugar: > 28g
Flavoured)	and Calcium: ≥ 25% DV**		or Calcium: < 25% DV
	and Container size: ≤ 250ml		or Container size: > 250ml
Yogurt Drinks	Fat: ≤ 3.25% M.F. or ≤ 3g		Fat: > 3.25% M.F. or > 3g
	and Container size: ≤ 250ml		or Container size: > 250ml
Soy/Milk Alternative	Fortified with calcium and vitamin D		Unfortified
Beverages (Plain or	and Container size: ≤ 250ml		or Container size: > 250ml
Flavoured)			
Juices or Blends:	100% juice, pulp, or purée		< 100% juice, pulp, or purée
Vegetable or Fruit	and Unsweetened/No sugar added		or Sugar in the ingredient list
	and Container size: ≤ 250ml		or Container size: > 250ml
Hot Chocolate	Fat: ≤ 2% M.F. or ≤ 5g		Fat: > 2% M.F. or > 5g
	and Sugar: ≤ 28g		or Sugar: > 28g
	and Calcium: ≥ 25% DV		or Calcium: < 25% DV
	and Container size: ≤ 250ml		or Container size: > 250ml
Coffee and Tea			All Coffee and Tea
Iced Tea			All Iced Tea
Energy Drinks			All Energy Drinks
Sports Drinks			All Sports Drinks
Other Beverages (e.g.,			All Other Beverages
soft drinks; flavoured			
water; "juice-ades", such			
as lemonade, limeade)			

^{*}M.F. = Milk Fat. The amount can be found on the front of the food label.

^{**}DV = Daily Value.

Beverages – Secondary Schools

Compare the nutrition criteria below with the Nutrition Facts table and ingredient list on the food label.

	Sell Most (≥ 80%)	Sell Less (≤ 20%)	Not Permitted for Sale
	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria	Nutrition Criteria
Water	Plain		
Milk* and Milk-Based	Fat: ≤ 2% M.F.** or ≤ 5g		Fat: > 2% M.F. or > 5g
Beverages (Plain or	and Sugar: ≤ 28g		or Sugar: > 28g
Flavoured)	and Calcium: ≥ 25% DV***		or Calcium: < 25% DV
Yogurt Drinks	Fat: ≤ 3.25% M.F. or ≤ 3g		Fat: > 3.25% M.F. or > 3g
Soy/Milk Alternative	Fortified with calcium and vitamin D		Unfortified
Beverages (Plain or			
Flavoured)			
Juices or Blends:	100% juice, pulp, or purée		< 100% juice, pulp, or purée
Vegetable or Fruit	and Unsweetened/No sugar added		or Sugar in the ingredient list
Hot Chocolate	Fat: ≤ 2% M.F. or ≤ 5g		Fat: > 2% M.F. or > 5g
	and Sugar: ≤ 28g		or Sugar: > 28g
	and Calcium: ≥ 25% DV		or Calcium: < 25% DV
Coffee and Tea		Decaffeinated	Caffeinated
Iced Tea		Calories: ≤ 40	Calories: > 40
		and Decaffeinated	or Caffeinated
Energy Drinks			All Energy Drinks
Sports Drinks			All Sports Drinks
Other Beverages (e.g.,		Calories: ≤ 40	Calories: > 40
soft drinks; flavoured		and Caffeine-free	or with caffeine
water; "juice-ades", such			
as lemonade, limeade)			

^{*}Milk can be sold in containers that hold multiple servings.

^{**}M.F. = Milk Fat. The amount can be found on the front of the food label.

^{***}DV = Daily Value.