



Oakland Unified School District Nutrition Services School Food Donation Program

OUSD Nutrition Services School Food Donation Program provides an opportunity for our schools and school district to give back to the community the inevitable surplus food items that are available. There is high value of this surplus food resource to serve an important role in feeding our hungry community and in keeping good food out of the landfill. With the Federal Good Samaritan Act and USDA Lunch Act, food donation is legal and encouraged.

Food to School Families

A school partners with their district food service department to develop and oversee a distribution of surplus food to the student families to take home with them during scheduled distribution periods at the school site.

Food to Community Partners

A school partners with their district food service department and a local non-profit to do routine pick-ups or drop offs of surplus food from school site.

A school food donation program builds off of our cafeteria sorting station that includes a food share table (reference Nutrition Services Food Share handout). The remaining items out of the food share such as milk, hot entrée or heated or chilled vegetables that cannot go back to the kitchen is available to donate. Along with this cafeteria food share surplus, the kitchen has at various times items that cannot be used another day that can be added to this donation. Items from the kitchen include items that cannot be held for the next day and items that will perish or be past expiration date before being able to serve.

The many benefits:

- Reduction of Hunger- 1 in 6 county residents is food insecure
- Provide education and showing by example - teaching our students the value of our food with resources that go into their production.
- Improving the Environmental impact-Methane gas is 21 times more harmful to the environment than CO₂ gas, therefore, our government is trying to do something about the 1 billion food items rotting in our landfills annually.

Technical assistance and resources are available to assist with this program. To find out more and to see about a food donation program for your school and/or district, please contact Nancy Deming, Sustainability Manager, Custodial and Nutrition Services, nancy.deming@ousd.org, 510-290-4875.



OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community Schools, Thriving Students