

Minutes of the School Food Subcommittee Meeting  
April 24, 2006

Present: Jaclyn Wong, Katie Kaplow, Laura Brainin-Rodriguez, Ed Wilkins, Libby Albert, Ericka Lovrin, Dana Woldow

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 by Dana Woldow

Minutes from the last meeting were approved as amended.

There was a discussion of genetically modified foods, particularly soy. A question had been raised about the advisability of eating genetically modified foods. It was decided that there was not sufficient evidence that these foods cause any health or safety risk to students and so will continue to be allowed in the meal program.

Ed gave an update on the progress with Preferred Meal Systems taking over the menu bid. Preferred has sent people to view every school, but most of the changes they anticipate will not show up until next school year, as their bid just became effective at the start of April. There will be a pilot for serving hot breakfasts in about 12-15 elementary schools next year, to see if it will increase breakfast participation. Schools will be selected for the pilot based on size (larger sites preferred), past breakfast participation (higher participation sites preferred), and percentage of students qualified for free or reduced meals (high % qualified preferred). The group should also include schools from each area of the city. At long last, cut up fruit in juice is starting to appear on the lunch menu. So far, only pineapple has arrived.

There was a discussion of “fresh” fruit vs “nutritious” fruit, as relates to the efforts to amend a bill in the state senate.

Laura presented information on the group Les Dames d’Escoffier, professional women involved with restaurants/food in the Bay Area, who might be interested in working to provide a food court in one of the larger high schools someday.

Meyla Ruwin, who was to attend this meeting and present the draft of the Wellness Policy, was unable to attend. The policy will be circulated by e-mail for comments and input before it is brought to the full nutrition committee meeting for approval in May.

This committee will meet again next fall. A schedule will be provided early in the summer.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50.