



“Offer v. Serve” Program



In the past, the Crosby ISD Child Nutrition Department served every item listed on the menu to each child who purchased lunch.

In an effort to decrease food waste, reduce garbage, reduce food costs to the cafeteria program, accommodate the smaller appetites of younger students, provide students with food choices, and continue to provide our students with meals at the lowest cost possible, CISD is now transitioning from the Nutrient Standard based program to the Traditional based "Offer" versus "Serve" program under the National School Lunch Program.

In the "Offer" vs. "Serve" program, students are no longer required to take foods that they will not eat and which ultimately end up in the school garbage cans.

Students are allowed to choose which foods they want. Of the five food components offered, students are required to take at least three food components—the minimum required under the National School Lunch Offer Versus Serve Program regulations. Students can still have the complete meal offered on the daily menu (including milk), but they may also decide to take some, but not all, of the food components.

On certain days extra food items are offered. These snack items do not count as any of the minimum components; they include items such as Rice Krispies Treats, Chocolate Chip Cookies, and Cinnamon Rolls. If a student chooses all 5 components, they are not eligible to have the snack item counted on their tray or they can take the item and will be charged.

Cashiers and managers will monitor student choices and encourage them to take the minimum of three food components. Some items on the menu count as more than one item, such as the chicken nuggets and pizza listed. These are combination items.

The five basic food components are:

- Meat or Meat Alternate (M)
- Bread or Bread Alternate (B)
- Vegetable (V)
- Fruit (F)
- Milk (MK)

The following table shows a few of the possible lunch options available under the new "Offer" versus "Serve" lunch program. (Note that milk is no longer required with each meal.)

Complete Meal	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Chicken Nuggets (M) (B) Baby Carrots (V) Watermelon (F) Milk (MK)	Chicken Nuggets (M) (B) Milk (MK) 3	Chicken Nuggets (M) (B) Baby Carrots (V) 3	Baby Carrots (V) Watermelon (F) Milk (MK) 3
Cheese Pizza (M) (B) Garden Salad (V) Apple (F) Honey Grahams(B) Milk (MK)	Cheese Pizza (M) (B) Milk (MK) Honey Grahams (B) 3	Garden Salad (V) Apple (F) Milk (MK) 3	Cheese Pizza (M) (B) Garden Salad (V) 3

If you have questions or comments about the new program, you can contact the CISD Child Nutrition Department at crosbykitchen.com