

# PIISD Food Pantry Policies and Procedures

## Purpose of District Food Pantry

To reduce food waste at the campuses through the distribution of surplus food items to students for later consumption.

## Who can Participate

- Students of Point Isabel ISD only. Adults and teachers are not allowed to participate.

## Items that can be donated:

- Most items are unopened, self-stable, nutritious items. Some pantries expand this to provide fresh food and more items.
- Some examples are: crackers, cereal packs, applesauce cups, fruit cups, granola bars, fruit bars, dried fruit, uncut fresh fruit, unopened milk, unopened fruit.

## What is a “School Food Pantry”

A “School Food Pantry” can accept, store, and distribute donated and leftover food to students. The School Food Pantry is an emerging tool in the effort to fight hunger and food insecurity among students who are the most in need of such assistance.

## Food Distribution

- Students are not policed in the amount of food that is selected from the pantry. They are allowed to take food items to consume later on. Students who are on a special diet are allowed to participate however should be mindful of the things they cannot eat.
- Campuses may create backpack survival kits. Backpacks are a good way to re-distribute food to hungry students or food insecure students especially before the weekend. Communication between campus nurses and counselors will need to be done prior to the pick-up date so these kits may be prepared to send with student.
- Pop-Up pantry events on a school campus. Food for the pop-up pantry can come from a school food drive held during a school calendar event. Food is meant for students of the school who may be in need. Food can be received Monday-Thursday then re-distributed on Friday before the weekend.