

AASA, The School Superintendents Association, representing more than 13,000 educational leaders, applauds the final rule from the U.S. Department of Agriculture regarding school meal nutrition standards. In issuing these regulations, the USDA acknowledges the great work already happening in schools to make meals more nutritious while listening to school leaders' call for some common-sense flexibilities. AASA members were involved in a meeting with Secretary Purdue and made clear their support for healthy meals and the need for these small changes, and we are pleased to see these flexibilities reflected in the rule.

AASA executive director Daniel Domenech said, "The health of students is critical to their learning, and a hungry child won't learn. Superintendents are committed to serving their students nutritious meals. I applaud the USDA for finding the middle ground and releasing a final rule that reflects superintendents' concerns while maintaining high nutrition standards of the underlying statute."