

December 15, 2025

Guam Education Board Policy Committee Members:

RE: Input on BP 705

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding Food and Nutrition Services Management outlined in BP 705, pages 4–5.

As a high school student at John F. Kennedy High School and the Senior Class President, I strongly oppose the recommendation to remove allowable fundraising events outlined in BP 705, pages 4–5.

At JFK, activity days are a major part of how students fundraise and build school community. These events are not just about selling food—they are one of the few opportunities where multiple clubs, classes, and organizations can participate at the same time in a structured, school-approved setting. As Senior Class President, I have seen firsthand how much planning, collaboration, and responsibility students put into these events, from budgeting and organizing to working together with advisors and administration.

One of the most meaningful aspects of activity days was the ability for clubs to represent their cultures by selling foods connected to their traditions. Students who had never been exposed to these cultures or foods finally had the chance to experience them in a positive, welcoming environment. This promoted cultural understanding, inclusion, and appreciation among students, which is especially important in a diverse school like JFK. The variety of foods also increased student participation—students were excited, engaged, and supportive of each other's booths.

From a fundraising standpoint, these activity days were extremely important. The senior class relied on the funds raised to support major milestones such as senior activities, events, and other class responsibilities. Without these fundraising opportunities, students are forced to depend on fewer, less effective alternatives that do not generate the same level of participation or revenue. This creates additional stress for student leaders and limits what we are able to provide for our classmates.

While promoting healthy eating in schools is important, the current policy already sets clear limits, approval requirements, and event caps to ensure fundraising remains controlled and compliant. Removing allowable fundraising events entirely would eliminate a system that has worked for years and would negatively impact student leadership, cultural expression, school spirit, and student-run programs.

Before implementing a change with such wide-reaching effects, it is important that the Board seek meaningful input from students, club leaders, advisors, and school administrators, particularly at the high school level. Students are directly affected by this policy, and our experiences should be considered in the decision-making process.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kohen Diego
Senior Class President/IBOGS Chairperson
John F. Kennedy High School