

TIYAN HIGHSCHOOL BP705 INPUT

Tiyan Highschool came to a consensus that limiting food sales during the school day places unnecessary restrictions on schools that rely on fundraisers to support essential programs such as athletics, clubs, field trips, and student-led activities. Food sales are the most practical and effective way for schools to raise funds, especially for student organizations with limited resources. Restricting these opportunities reduces a school's ability to support programs and shifts financial pressure onto families. Requiring multiple layers of approval and restricting sales to after school hours makes planning difficult and participation low, making it almost impossible for fundraisers to succeed.

The policy's requirement that food sales during celebrations be limited to culturally related foods, though well intentioned, is not practical, nor ideal. Many traditional cultural foods require long preparation times, experience, and hard-to-find ingredients, which makes them difficult to provide consistently. While promoting cultural diversity is important, not all school events are cultural in nature, and many essential fundraisers do not fit this category. This restriction also negatively affects local businesses that partner with schools for food sales. For example, restaurants and food trucks like Jamaican Grill provide popular foods like barbecue that appeal to students but may not qualify as "cultural" under this definition. Limiting sales to only cultural foods could reduce profits for these businesses and limit students' options.

Schools should have the flexibility to decide what foods to sell at fundraisers and events. Cultural inclusivity can still be promoted in meaningful ways without restricting all sales. For example, **schools, like ours, celebrate United Nations Day and Guam History Day**, where students and families share cultural dishes and showcase traditions. These foods are typically given out for free, as **cultural dishes are meant to be shared rather than consistently sold for profit**. If schools were limited to selling only cultural foods for fundraisers, it could diminish the significance of these celebrations and make cultural dishes feel less special over time.

Instead of broadly limiting food sales during the school day, schools should be granted greater autonomy to regulate fundraisers based on their specific needs and student populations. A balanced approach would allow food sales during the school day with reasonable guidelines,

such as portion control, nutritional variety, and limits on frequency, rather than an outright restriction. This would preserve schools' ability to fund essential programs while still promoting student health.