

**Real Food for Kids - Montgomery**  
**Member Priorities 2016 (Survey taken between 2/15-4/4/16)**

Rank	Priority	Rating Average*	# of Responses	% high priority or essential
1	At the elementary school level, increasing the amount of wholesome food options and reducing the amount of “junk” food options (e.g., burgers, fries, pizza, processed chicken).	2.45	418	91.4%
2	At the middle and high school level. increasing the amount of wholesome food options and reducing the amount of “junk” food options (e.g., burgers, fries, pizza, processed chicken).	2.33	415	88.4%
3	Moving from processed, pre-plated and reheated food to food cooked from scratch at the central facility with more prep work done on site at schools with kitchens.	2.26	418	85.4%
4	Removing or reducing marketing of unhealthy foods in school.	2.24	406	83.0%
5	A limited set of healthier a la carte items for elementary schools.	2.20	435	82.1%
6	Removing other remaining chemicals characterized as “avoid” or “caution” by the Center for Science in the Public Interest from school food.	2.15	435	80.5%
7	A limited set of healthier a la carte items for middle and high schools.	2.13	430	81.9%
8	Reducing the sugar in all school foods.	2.12	420	80.2%
9	Offering unlimited fruits and vegetables free to all children who purchase lunch.	2.06	419	77.6%
10	Putting salad bars in all middle and high schools.	2.00	413	77.7%
11	Replacing unhealthy packaged snacks (e.g., baked potato chips, Dorito's, Cheetos, Rice Krispy Treats, Welch's Fruit Snacks, etc.) in vending machines with healthier items in machines that are on during the school day.	1.98	437	73.5%
12	Greater transparency about a la carte sales (e.g., chips, cookies, ice creams) in elementary schools.	1.92	432	71.1%
13	Reducing the sugar in school breakfasts (including breakfast in the classroom).	1.89	418	72.2%
14	Reducing/eliminating the use of plastics for reheating meals.	1.87	433	68.8%
15	Removing all soda from all afterschool vending machines in MCPS (they are currently off until 30 minutes after the end of the school day).	1.87	435	71.0%
16	Removing remaining artificial food coloring from school foods (MCPS agreed to remove Blue 2, Green 3, Red 3, Yellow 5 and Yellow 6 already).	1.85	432	69.9%
17	Removing all candy and items that do not meet the wellness policy from all afterschool vending machines in MCPS (they are currently off until 30 minutes after the end of the school day)	1.84	434	70.0%
18	Collaborating with MCPS on educational programs that encourage children to eat more fruits and vegetables.	1.84	405	71.1%

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19	Better access to a water source (e.g., a cooler or water fountain) inside all cafeterias (and not in hallway outside).	1.83	408	67.6%
20	Serving antibiotic-free meat.	1.79	413	69.0%
21	Greater transparency about a la carte sales (e.g., chips, cookies, ice creams) in middle and high schools.	1.78	430	66.7%
22	A policy allowing water bottle use throughout the school day in all MCPS schools.	1.78	407	69.3%
23	Offering fresh, chilled, healthy options in vending machines (such as sandwiches, low-sugar yogurt or fresh fruit cups).	1.75	435	67.1%
24	Increased farm-to-school procurement.	1.74	417	67.4%
25	Getting ingredient lists for all foods on MCPS web site.	1.71	430	64.2%
26	Serving organic or sustainably-produced, pesticide-free food.	1.70	417	65.7%
27	Better enforcement of the existing policy that discourages using candy as a reward for children.	1.66	406	65.5%
28	Eliminating BPA in canned foods.	1.62	434	60.6%
29	Serving organic milk.	1.53	413	59.8%
30	Eliminating fruit juice and frozen juice sorbet and only offering fresh fruit as fruit options for breakfast and lunch.	1.45	417	55.6%
31	Putting salad bars in all elementary schools.	1.43	419	54.4%
32	A stronger policy that prohibits rather than just discourages teachers from using candy as a reward for children.	1.25	407	53.3%
33	Regular burrito (Chipotle-style) or Asian bar options in middle and high schools.	1.19	410	49.5%
34	Starting wellness committees in every MCPS school.	1.17	404	47.5%
35	Offering more options for special diets (e.g., vegetarian, gluten-free, dairy-free).	1.10	416	44.5%
36	Increased time to eat lunch for elementary school children (children currently have at least 30 minutes).	1.08	405	43.7%
37	District-wide policies about food served at fundraisers and parties.	0.23	405	25.7%

*\*Rating averages were calculated by assigning 3 points to "Essential", 2 points to "A High Priority" and 1 point to "A moderate priority" responses and Subtracting 2 points for "Not a Priority" and 1 point for "A Low Priority" responses.*