



Writing Annotations

Grade: **10**

Date Used: January 2010
Year Originated: 2003

Scoring: 4-Strand by 4-Levels

Mode:

Persuasive

Prompt:

Some nutritionists think the snack offerings at schools are unhealthy. Because of this, soda pop and candy machines have been removed from schools. Take a position for or against the removal of these machines. In a multi-paragraph letter to the school board, persuade them to agree with your position.

Writing Sample

0310PA13

Grade 10 Year 2003

Dear: Principal

I think nutritionists are too worried about the snack offerings. It's a good thing for the school cause it will help it make money. Besides the only time the students will buy the snacks is at lunch time. So it wouldn't interfere with the school work.

The parents shouldn't ask the principal to remove all the snacks. By doing that it will just make something small into a big deal. The only thing that would not be allowed would be having the students eating the snacks in class. Then I could see why the parents would be doing that.

I also think that if the snacks are already in the school then why didn't the parents stop it before they came in the school. Because then everyone makes a big deal about the whole thing. Personal I think the snacks aren't that big of a deal at all. So that is what I think about the snack offerings at school.

Writing Sample

0310PA6a

Grade 10 Year 2003

March 27, 2001

Mr. H. Principal.

To Mr. N.

This letter is regarding to not to remove all soda pop and candy machines at our school. I am here to inform you that I think that taking away our privilege to soda pop and candy machines is a bad idea.

The problem is removing all soda pop and candy machines is a bad idea. I think that because sometimes students don't have enough time to eat breakfast in the morning. They usually don't have enough time because they either have to catch the bus or go in for tutorial to make up missing works, make up tests or ask questions. If they need to go to tutorial, they wouldn't have enough time to eat anything or else they wouldn't be able to make up

Writing Sample

0310PA6b

Grade 10 Year 2003

whatever they need to make up or ask questions

Another thing is that food gives us energy, and energy can keep us awake. I don't think any teacher would like students falling asleep in his or her class. It would also be a long wait until it is lunch time. Many students would be hungry/thirsty by that time.

I know that garbage would be a problem, but most students know how to use a garbage can and put the garbage to where they belong. So it wouldn't be a big issue to worry about.

Last of all, the nutritionists said that our snacks that is offering at our school is terrible, but what do they really mean by terrible? If they think the snacks are not

Writing Sample

0310PA6c

Grade 10 Year 2003

healthy, we can put other stuff in the machines, we don't need to remove it permanently. We could put nutrition food and drinks in there instead. For example, crackers, nutrient bars and juices. Those are some healthy food that could be offered to students rather than removing the machines.

And again, this is regarding to not to remove soda, pop and candy machines. Thank you for your attention. Have a nice day.

Sincerely yours,

Writing Sample

0310PA2a

Grade 10 Year 2003

S— D—

L— Washington

To Mr. H—

Schools should promote and sell healthier and more nutritious snack foods. There are several reasons for promoting a healthier diet. Students are at school for six to seven hours a day and eat lunch at school. Some students even have breakfast at school, the most important meal of the day.

Schools should sell the type of foods that support a balanced diet, that other government operated associations support. Selling a wider variety of nutritious foods would cut down on waste, and dentist visits, increase better eating habits, exercise, and would boost moral around school. Schools should promote and sell healthier and more nutritious snack foods.

Writing Sample

0310PA2b

Grade 10 Year 2003

By selling water juices and tea's in soda machines instead of soda's and/or whole grain chips nuts or fruit instead of Starbursts Red Vines and Cheetos would dramatically cut down on the number of needed dentist visits and the number of cavities and fillings needed. There fore schools should promote and sell healthier snack foods at school.

Along with less dentist visits healthier foods at school would help students learn to manage a proper diet both at home and school in turn affecting exercise rates. The United States Surgeon General has repeatedly stated that U.S. Students are eating very unhealthy foods, have unbalanced diets which in turn cause them to gain unnecessary weight. If schools promote healthy foods at younger ages these food patterns will diminish. This shows the probable outcomes if a school were to promote and sell more nutritious snack foods at school.

Writing Sample

0310PA2c

Grade 10 Year 2003

Students on the average who have better eating habits and exercise more at school are more likely to have a higher moral and therefore will do better socially and academically than those students with an unbalanced diet. It is a school's duty to promote and sell more nutritious foods.

Healthier foods at school also promote less waste such as candy wrappers, chip bags, and empty soda bottles, creating less work for the wonderful team of custodial engineers. Less clean-up for the custodians means they have more time to improve the quality of school life.

For a teenager, food is a very important key element. Food being such a key element, it has a dramatic effect on life, such as better eating habits, more exercise, and better moral. Schools that promote

Writing Sample

0310PA2d

Grade 10 Year 2003

and sell healthier foods not only are giving the students something to eat they teach the students the life long lesson of a balanced diet. It is imperative that a school promote and sell nutritious and healthy foods.

Sincerely:

Writing Sample

0310V9a

Grade 10 Year 2003

Dear Principal :

I understand that recently an issue revolving around snack offerings has arisen, concerning the health of the students. Hearing nutritionists' denouncement of the snacks, parents are now asking for the removal of candy and soda machines immediately. This demand is unreasonable. Not only does this request patronize the students, it encroaches upon their freedom of choice as well. On top of that, they are asking the school to surrender a source of income just so they can control their own child in an unnecessary and irrational way. These parent requests are ludicrous, and the snack machines should remain.

By high school age range a student is responsible enough to take some control of his actions. At the ages of 15-18, a person should be able to resist the lures of a mere snack machine. These parents petitioning the termination of snack services grossly underestimate the maturity of their children and their children's peers. Honestly, if they do not approve of the food and drink, they should simply tell their child not to partake, instead of treating him/her like a helpless toddler. I do not profess that by a high school age a person is fully developed and completely self-capable. However, he/she is mature enough to withstand the petty temptation of a snack machine, so solution by means of removal is inessential and overblown.

Writing Sample

0310V9b

Grade 10 Year 2003

Secondly, not only do requests of machine bannings insult students' maturity, but they encroach upon their freedom of choice and it is unfair. Parents asked for the machines to be taken out because of concern for their children's health. However, not every student's parents complained. So in effect, the parents who did are trying to control the rights of students who are not their children. The snack foods may not provide a nutritious diet, but if their guardians do not object, students should have the liberty to choose whether or not to intake unhealthy foods and drinks. It is not fair that these parents, whether indirectly or not, try to withhold the freedom of choice of teenagers they have no legal control over. Regardless of health issues, the decision should be left to the students, and adults who are not their parents should not try to subject these kids to the their intrusive methods of governance.

Also, the school gains some monetary profit from

Writing Sample

0310V9c

Grade 10 Year 2003

snack sales, so if these parents' demands were granted, one source of income would be gone. The school needs all the money it can get to support itself and its various functions and activities. So the removal of the machines takes both from the students and from the school itself. The problem's center is health concerns, but figuring that machine removal is not the best solution, financial connections need to be taken into account. Money for the school is being threatened by overbearing parents, so their requests should be declined.

The answer does not lie in machine removal, because that would be unjust towards the students whose guardians did not complain. Parents need to take responsibility of their own children and tell them not to use the machines. Likewise, these students need to take responsibility of themselves and resist. And considering the maturity level achieved by high school, it is completely possible. That way, people are aware of health issues, but still have their freedom of choice. Even the school benefits, keeping the machines as a source of finance. The snack machines should remain in place.

Sincerely,

K. M.