

# Should Canyon View Middle School Change the Closed Campus Policy?



**For:**

By: Alexis Cook

Ring ring! There goes the lunch bell. You have been waiting for this period forever! You find yourself racing to your car to meet up with your best friend, who you are dying to spill gossip with. But then, all of the sudden, you are no longer allowed to leave the campus. You dramatically fall to the ground sending a long obnoxious howl into the sky. What on Earth are you going to do? Maybe start a petition, but that may not get you anywhere. Now I know that many people are battling the fight for off-campus lunches. But no one seems to really care in the end knowing that they have friends who stay for lunch anyway. All schools should have off-campus lunch. Yes, there are some downfalls with off-campus lunches, but the benefits outweigh the costs.

The first reason every school should have off-campus for lunch is students would have more time, not only to eat, but to be themselves and interact with others. Having more time for lunch means they can take their time to eat. With 15-minute lunches, students pretty much shove it all down. And when you eat fast, you don't stay full for as long. So basically, students will become hungry. When someone is hungry, they are likely to not listen to anything the teacher is saying.

Allowing students to leave campus for lunch means more money for the economy. In the article, *The Berkshire Eagle*, it quotes that, "Local establishments like *Teddy's Restaurant* would likely be out of business if not for the hundreds of students that pass through their doors every week." More money for local businesses mean more tax dollars for schools.

The high school has an open campus policy. According to *The Berkshire Eagle*, "Schools should only allow students who are 17 years or older to leave campus." Now I disagree with that. The article states that they are more responsible. It is obvious that not every 17-year old is responsible.

In conclusion, every school should allow off-campus lunch. It can provide many new experiences for students and help the economy. It is time to rethink the current policy.



**Against:**

By: Hallie Hawkins

Should students be able to have off-campus lunch? No! Having off-campus lunch could result in many dangers. Some of these dangers include participating in illegal activities or even getting hit by a car when crossing the intersection. When kids get money and have the chance to go buy their own food, this could and probably will result in buying junk. The food at school has a variety of food choices--milk variety, juice, snacks, main dish, and sometimes a little.

When teenagers get off school campus, they may think they are allowed to do whatever they want, including drugs and possibly harming others. When students are on campus, they are supervised and expected to follow the rules. According to Rekin and Skrubs, schools should not have open campus lunch. If they do, this increases student drug and alcohol use. Students may go home when their parents are at work or out of the house to use these illegal substances.

Kids getting hit by cars happens all the time. Even if students looks both ways, a car could come flying down the road and hit them unexpectedly. When someone gets hit by a car, it could cause all kinds of physical problems. The consequence may even be death. The school does not want to put students at risk.

Having an open campus policy could result in unhealthy kids. If a student has a choice between an orange or a box of French Fries, what do you think they are going to pick? Eating healthy food leads to a healthy body, and a healthy body is a healthy mind. According to Christopher Bergland, "The history of human evolution shows a definitive link between our physical health and psychological well-being."

Having lunch off campus is not a good idea. There are many negative consequences that come along with it. Off campus lunch puts all students at risk and may lead to students doing illegal things and future health problems. Off campus lunch is available in high school, and high school isn't that far away.



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