

UNIONTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
CELEBRATION POLICY

APPROVED: FEBRUARY 1, 2016

REVISED:

PURPOSE: This policy outlines the recognition that on occasion, it is appropriate for our classroom communities to celebrate together as a class to mark a special event or the birthday of a classmate. While these events do provide a social learning opportunity, they do impede upon precious academic learning time. The following guidelines are designed to allow for classroom parties and birthday recognitions, without unnecessarily infringing upon academic time.

Furthermore, it sets districtwide guidelines for classroom parties in all Elementary buildings.

CLASSROOM PARTIES: These parties are held on or around the end of October, the last day of school prior to winter break, Mid-February and possibly at the end of the school year. Classroom teachers are responsible for the planning of the class parties. Refreshments for class parties should include light snacks and beverages with an emphasis on healthy snack choices but not a necessity. Exceptions are to be made for these four parties to include snacks that may not be acceptable to the school district wellness policy. The class party may include craft activities or games organized by the classroom teacher, but these kinds of activities are not required. Class parties are to be scheduled near the end of the school day and are limited to a maximum duration of two hours, which includes time for cleaning up the classroom.

STUDENT BIRTHDAY PARTIES: If a parent would like to have a short class birthday acknowledgement for their child, they need to speak with your child's teacher in advance. Parents should be mindful of the district's nutritional policy as well as the dietary restrictions of students in the classroom including allergies. These birthday recognitions are short (ten minutes) and limited to the classroom community. Parents are asked to drop off the treats in the main office, and these treats will be delivered to the classroom.