

6th Grade Argument Sample

Should the Howard County Public School System stop selling junk food in the cafeteria?

There are a number of reasons why the Howard County Public School System should allow junk food to be sold during lunch in the cafeteria.

One reason the school system should continue to sell junk food during lunch is that it gives teens a chance to learn about the decision making process. If teens never get a chance to make decisions when they are young, they will not be able to make good decisions as adults. Teens need a chance to think about the pros and cons of the choices that they make.

A second reason the school system should continue to sell junk food is that if the cafeteria did not sell junk food, students would just bring it from home anyway. Our class conducted a school-wide survey and eighty percent of students would pack junk food in their lunch if they did not sell it in the cafeteria. At least if students buy the junk food in the cafeteria, the school can make the profit rather than the local convenience store. Banning the sale of junk food would not reduce the amount of junk food that students eat.

Finally, it is important to the cafeteria's budget that junk food can be sold. The cafeteria has to make a profit in order to pay staff. Schools actually lose money on the school lunches, so schools will have to sell junk food or taxes will have to be raised.

Selling junk food in the cafeteria allows students to learn about the decision making process and allows the cafeteria to make the profit from the junk food sales that students would be bringing from home anyway.

Annotations

The writer of this piece:

- **Makes a precise claim.**
 - *There are a number of reasons why the Howard County Public School System should allow junk food to be sold during lunch in the cafeteria.*
- **Presents relevant facts and evidence to support the claim.**
 - *Our class conducted a school-wide survey and eighty percent of students would pack junk food in their lunch if they did not sell it in the cafeteria*
 - *Schools actually lose money on the school lunches, so schools will have to sell junk food or taxes will have to be raised.*
- **Organized argument, claims, and evidence using an organizational strategy throughout the text. (Reasons followed by supporting examples)**

- *One reason the school system should continue to sell junk food during lunch is that it gives teens a chance to learn about the decision making process*
 - *A second reason the school system should continue to sell junk food is that if the cafeteria did not sell junk food, students would just bring it from home anyway.*
- **provides a conclusion that clearly follows from and supports the author's claim.**
 - *Selling junk food in the cafeteria allows students to learn about the decision making process and allows the cafeteria to make the profit from the junk food sales that students would be bringing from home anyway.*
- **Uses words, phrases and clauses to clarify the relationship between the claim and reasons.**
 - *At least if students buy the junk food in the cafeteria, the school can make the profit rather than the local convenience store.*
 - *Banning the sale of junk food would not reduce the amount of junk food that students eat.*
- **Establishes and maintains a formal style.**
- **Demonstrates a command of the conventions of Standard Written English with minimal errors.**