

# POLICY

SOMERSET COUNTY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

<b>Date Submitted:</b> November 20, 1979 <b>Date Revised:</b> May 25, 1999 September 19, 2006 March 17, 2009	<b>Number:</b> <b>700-23</b>
<b>Subject:</b>  Duty-Free Lunch and Break Periods	<b>Date Approved:</b> November 15, 1980 October 17, 2006 June 16, 2009 <b>Date Revised:</b> June 15, 1999 September 19, 2006 March 17, 2009 <b>Effective Date:</b> July 1, 1999 October 17, 2006 June 16, 2009

## 1. PURPOSE

To establish a duty-free lunch and break period for employees in the Somerset County Public School System.

## 2. PROCEDURE

The Board of Education recognizes the inclusion within the Public School Laws of Maryland 1969, that employees may enjoy a duty-free lunch period of thirty (30) minutes unless the normal lunch period for a school is shorter. Eight (8) hour classified, hourly staff are given two (2) 15 minute duty-free breaks per an eight (8) hour work day. Classified, hourly staff working less than an eight (8) hour work day is granted a one (1) 15 minute duty-free break.

The Board states that faculties should develop procedures that will implement the intent of the law, i.e., freedom from assigned duties of lunch patrol, etc. Since employees eat in the same area as students they can influence student behavior greatly by their presence.

Duty-free lunch should not be interpreted to permit frequent or regular absence from school by employees nor does it direct separate eating facilities for employees.

Negotiated Agreement